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A TREATISE

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EMPLOYMENT OF THE SPECULUM

IN THE

DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT

OF

UTERINE DISEASES:

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WITH

THREE HUNDRED CASES.

BY

ROBERT LEE, M.D. F.R.S.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following observations on the Employment of the Speculum in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Uterine Diseases, are presented to the Medical Profession, with the hope that they may contribute in some degree to the Correction of those erroneous and pernicious doctrines respecting the Diseases of the Uterus, which have recently been introduced into England from Foreign Countries: and if possible to curb the licentious use of the Speculum.

ROBERT LEE.

1 *January*, 1858.
4, SAVILLE ROW, BURLINGTON GARDENS.

A TREATISE ON THE SPECULUM.

WITH THREE HUNDRED CASES.

THE *speculum matricis* is said by Ætius to have been invented in the days of the Emperor Domitian, but it must have been known to the Romans at an earlier period. In 1818 a bronze instrument, consisting of three branches, with two handles and a screw in the centre, was dug out of the ruins of Pompeii, and has been preserved in the Museum at Naples, and of which there is a description and delineation in Vulpes's work entitled 'Illustrazione di Tutti gli Strumenti Chirurgici,' Napoli 1847.

This instrument is called, *Speculum magnum matricis*, and there can be no doubt that it was intended to dilate the vagina and bring the os uteri into view. It is a complicated machine, but probably one of the most safe and perfect trivalve speculums that has since been invented.

Paulus Ægineta described an instrument which he called διοπτερα, composed of two branches and a screw handle, which was employed for the purpose of dilating the vagina. Avicenna is stated to have described, under the title *vertigo*, two sorts of specula with three branches, which were opened by means of a screw handle. Spachius has given four delineations of the uterine specula of Ambrose Parè, which had three branches, and were expanded by means of a screw. These instruments are figured and described in chapter xii., which is entitled 'De Verrucarum Cervicis Uteri Curatione.' The following passage contains an account of the diseases to which it was considered applicable: "Quæ in uteri cervice succrescant verrucæ, siquidem minime malignæ sint, filo

constringendæ erunt aut exsecandæ. Quæ altius in utero delitescent, speculo matricis immisso, oculis et digitis venient subjiciendæ." Spachius has likewise given a representation of the Vertigo of Albucasis; and it is probable that the instrument, being described along with others which were employed for the purpose of extracting the fœtus when dead, in difficult labours, that it was not used as a speculum uteri, but dilator of the vagina. That the speculum matricis of Joannes Ruffius, also figured by Spachius, was a midwifery instrument employed in difficult labours, is certain from the following passage at p. 179: "Apertorium inquam, unctum at compressum obstetrix leniter per collum matricis ad portam interiorem dirigat: quo sufficienter facto, utraque manu apertorium infra comprimat donec quantum sufficit os matricis diduxerit. Vel si placet altero instrumento speculo inquam matricis, eodem modo utatur, uti de apertorio modo dictu est. In hoc autem vertebram toties circumvolvi oportet donec sufficere propter dilatationem intellexeris. Eo autem modo diducto matricis orificio, obstetrix manibus infantem leniter apprehendat et si possibile est cum secundis educat."

M. Recamier, of Paris, states, that in 1801 he began to treat ulcers of the uterus and vagina with topical applications like those of the throat. By means of a slender tin tube, five inches long, he applied to the ulcerated surfaces charpie steeped in *mel rosarum*, and certain vegetable syrups with or without the collyrium of Lanfranc, the laudanum of Rousseau, and the extract of opium. "I owed to these dressings," said M. Recamier, "the amelioration of all the ulcers of the uterus and vagina to which they were applied, the prolongation of the lives of several women afflicted with uterine and vaginal cancers, and finally the cure of divers obstinate ulcerations which were not cancerous."* How the application of such simple substances as honey of roses, and syrup of carrots, could have produced such striking effects, it is difficult to imagine.

* Recherches sur le Traitement du Cancer. Par J. C. Recamier, M.D. tom. i. p. 317.—Paris, 1829.

In the year 1816 a case of cancer uteri occurred, which led M. Recamier to enlarge the diameter of his conical tube, that the morbid parts might be rendered more visible, and cauterization employed without compromising the surrounding structures. He called this tube the speculum uteri, which he says has now passed into general practice, to perfect the diagnosis of ulcers of the uterus and rectum, which is indispensable in all cases where dressings require to be applied to the os uteri, and where vesico-vaginal, and recto-vaginal fistulæ exist. At that time it was an opinion entertained by some French pathologists that cancer of the uterus is a local disease produced by, or in some way connected with, inflammation, and that the tissue of the uterus was almost always healthy two or three lines beyond the part affected; that there was an analogy between *noli me tangere* of the skin and cancerous ulceration of the uterus, and that this latter disease might be arrested by escharotics applied over the whole extent of the ulcerated surface. The unsoundness of these views was demonstrated by the result of the first case in which it was tried, the malignant disease having returned again and again; and at last, having proved fatal, though the fungoid tumour of the os uteri had been cut away by Baron Dupuytren in the first stage of the disease, and the entire os and cervix uteri, and a great part of the body of the uterus, had been destroyed, not by cancerous ulceration, but by twenty-seven cauterizations made with the acid nitrate of mercury.

From 1816 to 1829, M. Recamier employed escharotics in many cases of cancer uteri, by means of the speculum. In several of these, he said, the disease had never returned, but he admitted that in all, where the cervix was affected with cancer, the disease had never failed to reappear, and prove fatal whatever care was taken to carry the caustic beyond the diseased part. Although the total inefficacy of this treatment was soon satisfactorily proved, it continued nevertheless to be extensively employed in Paris; and not only were arsenical paste, nitrate of silver, acid, nitrate of mercury, potassa fusa, creosote, muriate of gold, and compression had

recourse to, but even irons of a red and white heat were applied to the parts, which destroyed their vitality, and made them slough; yet, incredible as it may appear, the sensations produced by the actual cautery were reported by the patients to have been rather pleasant than painful.

The cruel practice of extirpating with the knife the whole or portions of the cancerous, or rather supposed cancerous uterus, now began to prevail, and became, both in Paris and London, the source of great popularity to some individuals, and most flattering reports of the results were published. In the Memoir on 'Amputation of the Neck of the Uterus,' presented by Mons. Lisfranc to the Institute of France in 1834, the author stated, that of 99 operations for cancer of the uterus, 84 had been successful. The statements made in this Memoir are now universally disbelieved, and no man possessed of sound pathological knowledge would, at the present time, propose to extirpate the whole or any portion of a cancerous uterus. In the hands of M. Recamier and M. Lisfranc the speculum led only to useless cauterizations and operations.

The instrument soon assumed a great variety of forms, and came to be extensively employed in the investigation of venereal diseases, in the prisons, hospitals, and dispensaries of Paris. "Inflammation of the mucous membrane of the vagina and os and cervix uteri," "engorgements," "abrasions," "erosions," "superficial ulcerations," "syphilitic chancres," "fleshy pimples," "vegetations," "granulations in groups," "mucous tubercles," "crowds of red papillæ," "projecting spots of varying size," and numerous other morbid appearances, very vaguely defined, were reported to have been discovered by the aid of the speculum, which otherwise must have escaped detection.*

The speculum then became an instrument of police, and the sanatory laws not only of Paris but of Berlin, Hamburgh, Munich, Stuttgardt, and other continental cities, were regu-

* Mémoire sur quelques Faits observés à l'Hôpital des Vénériens. Par M. T. Ricord, D.M.P.; Mémoires de l'Académie Royale de Médecine, tom. ii. p. 159, 1833.

lated, to a great extent, by the information thus supposed to have been obtained. The prostitutes of the various districts of Paris were then, as now, compelled by the Police to assemble at stated periods in the mornings, at the hospitals and dispensaries appointed by the government, to be examined with the speculum. One by one in succession they took their places upon their backs, with their knees drawn up and separated, on a kind of bed or table, minutely described by M. Parent Duchatelet in his work on 'Prostitution in Paris;' had the speculum introduced into the vagina, and the parts publicly explored by the medical officers of the institution before students and strangers from foreign countries, some of whom took up the notion, that uterine pathology could only be learned by witnessing such exhibitions, and hurried home to announce to their unenlightened professional brethren, that they were the "apostles of the speculum"—that "their fate was linked to the speculum"—and that "with the speculum they would stand or fall."* According to the observations made on these occasions, the women thus publicly exposed to shame, were either permitted to return to their vicious habits without control, or be consigned to the wards of syphilitic hospitals, which M. Ricord says they looked upon as prisons, and to escape from which they practised every species of deceit. Some of the most eminent surgeons of France and Germany conducted these public examinations of prostitutes with the speculum, and endeavoured to perform the difficult task of separating the clean from the unclean.

In the communication which I have now the honour of presenting to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, I propose to state concisely the results of my observations during the last twenty-three years, on the Use of the Speculum in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Uterine Diseases, believing that, at the present time, it is equally important to the medical profession and to society at large, that the *legitimate* use and *real* value of the speculum in practice should be accurately defined and made known.

* See Dr. Balbrinie's Thesis.—London, 1836.

In the first great class of organic uterine diseases, which comprehends fibrous, fibro-cystic, glandular, and all other tumours which are not malignant, I have derived little or no aid from the speculum in their diagnosis or treatment. When fibrous and other tumours are formed under the peritoneum, or between the muscular fibres, or under the lining membrane and distend the cavity, their existence can only be determined by a careful examination of the hypogastrium, and of the interior of the pelvis through the vagina and rectum. The uterus is usually felt large, hard, irregular, and the cervix shortened. Where these tumours have passed partially or completely through the os uteri, their size, density, the length and thickness of their roots, and the relations these bear to the os and cervix uteri, can only be determined by the touch. I have never detected a small polypus within the os uteri, or hanging through it which I had failed to detect with the finger. In cases of this description I have, however, repeatedly employed the speculum to ascertain the colour of the polypus, and the degree of vascularity of the investing membrane, which without ocular examination could not have been determined. The knowledge thus acquired was of no use in the treatment. In a case of fibro-cystic polypus of the uterus, which occurred at St. George's Hospital upwards of eight years ago, under the care of Mr. Cutler, the speculum was introduced, and we saw clearly the small cysts under the vascular covering membrane. The speculum was withdrawn, before the operation for the removal of the tumour had commenced. In a case of small glandular polypus in a sterile married lady, which I saw with Mr. Painter, the speculum was employed, and it made us acquainted with the colour, and more perfectly with the nature and diminutive size of the disease. The polypus was removed with the forceps, after the speculum had been withdrawn. In a similar case which I saw with Mr. Jonson, of Grosvenor Place, the speculum was employed for the same purpose after the nature of the disease had been satisfactorily ascertained by the touch. The tumour was readily removed with the forceps after the speculum had been withdrawn. Very

recently I saw a sterile married lady, with Dr. Meryon, who had a small polypus hanging through the os uteri. In that case the speculum had been employed before the patient came to London, and for that reason alone I had recourse to it. The tumour presented the appearance of a large bean, was of a bright-red colour, like vascular tumours of the meatus urinarius, and bled freely when touched, though the surface was not ulcerated. The length and thickness of the root, on which the speculum threw no light, had previously been ascertained by the finger. The forceps was passed through the tube, and the tumour removed; but it is now my conviction, that the peduncle would have been more effectually destroyed, had the forceps been passed up along the fore and middle fingers of the left hand in the usual manner. More recently, with Mr. Henry Charles Johnson, I removed a small polypus hanging through the os uteri, with the forceps, in a most satisfactory manner, without the speculum altogether. In all large uterine polypi it is obvious that the speculum can be of no use, and that it would not enable us in any case to decide whether a tumour in the vagina was a polypus or an inverted uterus, a small portion only of the lining membrane of the uterus, in either case, being all that could possibly be presented to the eye. A case of large globular tumour in the vagina, now under the care of Mr. Cathrow, strikingly illustrates the truth of what has now been stated respecting the use of the speculum in the diagnosis of inverted uterus, and fibrous tumours.

In all the varieties of malignant disease of the uterus, scirrhus, fungoid cancer, and corroding or phagedenic ulceration, the speculum has given me no assistance whatever in their diagnosis and treatment, either in the early or in the advanced stages. I have never, in a single instance, failed to determine by the sense of touch, when cancer of the uterus had commenced; but I have repeatedly, after the most careful examination, both with and without the speculum, suspected that it would be developed, when the result proved that my fears were groundless. I am fully satisfied that the speculum does not enable us to decide earlier than the finger that

cancer has commenced; and if it did so, as some maintain, and enable us to make applications to the os uteri, which could not be made without, not the slightest advantage would be gained in practice. When cancer of the uterus has advanced to ulceration, the speculum is not only useless, but positively injurious, and ought not to be used. In the year 1827, when I first became acquainted with the speculum, and saw it very frequently employed in a great public institution, a patient with ulcerated carcinoma speedily died from hemorrhage after the introduction of the bivalve speculum. In cases of ulcerated cancer of the uterus, the best French writers have interdicted its use. "L'état de la matrice elle-même," observes M. Teallier, "interdit quelquefois l'usage du spéculum; les ulcérations saignantes, et profondes du col, son énorme développement, les fongosités qui s'élèvent de sa surface empêchent et rendent même inutile ce moyen d'exploration." M. Pauly gives the same opinion, and relates a case in which the speculum produced extensive laceration of the vagina, and death in two hours.

Several cases of ulcerated carcinoma have come under my observation, in which the speculum and ignorance of uterine pathology appeared to have led to the commission of the most grievous mistakes. In one of these, even in the last stage, the speculum and caustic had been employed almost daily for months, and hopes held out of recovery, when the patient had only a very short time to live. In another case which I saw with Mr. York, where the os and cervix uteri, and a portion of the vagina, were all extensively disorganized by cancerous ulceration, the speculum and caustic were used, at first daily, and then twice a week for months, by the physician under whose care she came at last, without the slightest benefit. I have seen other cases analogous to these, and several others have been related to me which I had not seen.

From the age of maturity to the middle period of life, the uterus is rarely, seldom at least, comparatively with advanced age, affected with organic disease of any kind. Amenorrhœa,

hysteria, dysmenorrhœa, menorrhagia, leucorrhœa, and various nervous affections local and constitutional, are those from which females chiefly suffer before the age of twenty-five or thirty. An examination of the physical condition of the uterus in unmarried women, either with or without the speculum, I have always refused to make, even when requested to do so, unless pain severe and almost constant in the region of the uterus existed, leucorrhœa or hemorrhage, which did not yield to treatment, and where the symptoms did not make me strongly suspect the presence of some displacement or organic disease. In unmarried women, whatever their rank or condition in life may be, the integrity of their structures should not be destroyed with the speculum, nor their modesty wounded by an examination of any kind without a necessity for such a proceeding being clearly shown. Even in married women, who are barren, or who have had children, it is unjustifiable on the grounds of propriety and morality, to institute an examination of any sort, unless the symptoms warrant the supposition, that the uterus is displaced, or is in a morbid condition, the nature of which cannot be determined by the symptoms alone. Numerous cases of leucorrhœa in young unmarried females, where rational constitutional and local treatment is adopted, perfectly recover, where no examination is made.

In cases of obstinate leucorrhœa, I have often employed the speculum in married women after I had failed to detect the existence of disease by the ordinary mode of examination. In some of these cases, there has been seen an unusual degree of redness of the os uteri, sometimes affecting the whole, and at other times limited to the inner margin, with or without swelling. The white viscid discharge has been seen issuing from the os uteri. I have never seen ulceration of the orifice of the uterus in such a case, and the condition of the interior of the cervix I have never been able to demonstrate, either with the bivalve or any other speculum; nor do I believe that, in the ordinary condition of the os uteri, it is possible to see the inner surface of the cervix to any great extent by any means. Where the orifice is unusually open,

the lips may be separated sometimes to a small extent; but never, as far as my observation goes, to show more than an extremely small part of the interior of the cervix. In some cases of chronic leucorrhœa, with redness and swelling of the os uteri, I have known the speculum and caustic employed at short intervals for many months without the slightest benefit, but the leucorrhœa has ceased, as the general health has been restored by constitutional and topical treatment. In a case of sterility with obstinate leucorrhœa, which has very recently occurred, the injection into the cavity of the uterus of a weak solution of sulphate of zinc, caused the most sudden and excruciating pain, and collapse of the nervous system, which had nearly proved fatal.

Sometimes one or both lips of the os uteri are in the condition which is usually called hypertrophy, and which has no relation to cancer. One lip perfectly smooth, and not unusually hard or irregular, as in cancer, protrudes beyond the other to the extent of half an inch, or three quarters, or more. I have known this state mistaken for polypus, seized with the forceps, dragged down to the orifice of the vagina, and removed with the knife or scissors. At other times both the lips are swollen, nodulated and fissured, and the mucous membrane covering them intensely red, with an appearance of superficial excoriations or granulations, which are elevated above the surrounding surface. These apparent granulations are usually considered and treated as ulcers of the os and cervix uteri, but they do not present the appearances which ulcers present on the surface of the body, or in the mucous membranes lining the viscera, and they are not identical with the granulations which fill up healthy ulcers. They present the appearances often observed on the tonsils, and which are said to be ulcers, but which are not. This granular state of the os uteri, in which the diseased mucous membrane is raised above the level of the surrounding surface, and not depressed like ulcerations in all other parts of the body, is not dissimilar to granular disease of the mucous membrane of the eyelids, the most aggravated cases of which are well known to be produced by the abuse of escharotic appli-

cations. These morbid states of the os uteri most frequently indicate the existence of some disease of the nabothean glands, penniform rugæ, lining membrane or walls of the uterus, or of the general health, which lies far beyond the reach of the speculum and caustic. The state of the orifice of the urethra not unfrequently indicates the existence of disease of the prostate gland, or of the urethra itself near the bladder. Such is the case with the os uteri, and its red swollen hypertrophied, granular state, often indicates morbid conditions of the constitution of the glands, mucous membrane, and walls of the uterus, on the nature, diagnosis, and treatment of which, little or no information is derived from the use of the speculum. In these cases, I have known leeches, scarifications, caustic, and the speculum employed upon a great scale, and sometimes I admit (if the reports of patients are always to be trusted to), with apparent temporary relief. Gently rubbing the os uteri with lunar caustic through the speculum, a few times at long intervals has appeared to effect all the good which such local treatment can accomplish. It is impossible that any disease of the os uteri, or any other part of the body, can require twice or thrice a week for six or nine months, the alternate applications of leeches and caustic through the speculum, in the manner which has recently been recommended and practised; and it is my conviction, that rational constitutional treatment and injections, sedative and astringent, will in these morbid conditions of the os uteri succeed ultimately in producing more successful results than escharotics.

In some of these cases, instead of adopting the course which I have now recommended, for the removal of these diseased states of the uterus, potassa fusa has been applied to the os and cervix uteri, a piece of potassa fusa has been run into the cervix and twisted about in all directions, which has produced sloughing and complete disorganization of the parts. In one case, which I saw in a young married lady, this had been done repeatedly, and the patient had nearly perished from peritonitis and the sloughing which followed. I saw this lady some months after, with her general health

deeply injured, the lips of the os uteri partially gone, and the parts cicatrized and contracted. I sought in vain for an explanation of the grounds of such practice, and recommended greater caution in the use of potassa fusa; but the advice was thrown away. Twice since the same experiment has been repeated by the same individual, and with the same results. One of the most learned Fellows of this Society has communicated to me the history of a case which came under his observation, in which sloughing followed the application of potassa fusa to the os uteri. The cervix uteri presented the appearance of a hard, pale, shining cicatrix. A narrow chink only was to be seen, into which a small bougie could not enter. The orifice was greatly contracted, if not absolutely closed. The eminent pathologist who has communicated to me the history of this case has justly observed, "That if potassa fusa be introduced into the os and cervix uteri, and turned firmly round, or be applied severely, as has lately been recommended, there must be a partial death and destruction of the part, and a state of actual mortification or gangrene induced; and this injury nature can only repair by sloughing, ulceration, cicatrization, and contraction, if not a complete closure of the cervix uteri."

An English physician, eminent in science, after visiting an hospital in Paris, a few days ago, wrote as follows to a friend in London:—"I have seen some very wonderful things which I will recount to you; a large speculum being passed up to the neck of the uterus, red hot irons are inserted into the neck, right into the os, which is also cauterized on its surface, and as soon as it is done the creatures get up and walk away, and never seem to feel it at all. To-day M. —— found an os wider open than it should be, and so, to satisfy his curiosity, he poked an immense long pair of forceps almost three inches into the cavity of the uterus; yet more, some days ago, I saw him pass his stick of lunar caustic into the os, a little way into the neck, then break it off and leave it there." If such practices as these, here described, were only employed in Paris, from whence all the pretended recent improvements in uterine pathology and therapeutics

have issued, I should not now have considered it necessary to denounce them to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

In the year 1832 my colleagues at the St. Marylebone Infirmary, Dr. Hope, Dr. Sims, Mr. Stafford, and Mr. Perry, late secretary to this Society, at my request, desired that the uteri of all the women who died in the wards should be carefully examined, and that they should be preserved for my inspection when any morbid appearance was observed. "From 1017 post-mortem examinations of females, of all ages, made by Dr. Boyd (after excluding those of children and others, in which special mention is not made of the uterus), there were found 708 where either the state or weight of the uterus was noted. In 13 of these there was congestion or inflammation, which had no specific character, and in some the inflammation was limited to the fundus, and could not have been detected, unless the uterus had been removed or cut open. In at least 3 there was enlargement and induration, which did not appear to have any specific character, and in 2 there was extreme wasting; 24 were puerperal cases; 13 dropsy of the ovaries or Fallopian tubes; in 31 fibrous or bony tumours; and in 21 cancer." "My impression is," adds Dr. Boyd, in the same report, "that ulceration of the neck or the mouth of the womb is an exceedingly rare disease, else I must have observed it, having cut up and weighed many hundreds, it could have scarcely escaped my notice."

Dr. Allen, the present resident medical officer at the St. Marylebone Infirmary, has held the office about twelve years, and he states to me, that he has actually examined or been present at the examination of the bodies of more than 1000 adult females, and "of these he does not believe, that he ever saw more than 20 examples of ulceration of the os uteri of any kind, scrofulous or venereal, excluding cases of ulcerated cancer of the uterus, which were known to exist before death." Dr. Allen further states, that he has "observed in some cases, a portion of the mucous membrane of one lip slightly abraded, this he has seen occasionally, but not often."

Mr. Prescott Hewett (a great part of whose professional education was received in Paris, and who, for some years, followed the practice of the several professors who were in the habit of exhibiting to their pupils all the appearances which the os uteri presented, through the speculum,) was six years Curator of the Museum of St. George's Hospital, and conducted all the post-mortem examinations. He states that during that time he could not have examined fewer than 600 uteri, "and very seldom, if ever, did he meet with anything which could be called ulceration of the os and cervix uteri, independent of scrofula and cancer."

Mr. George Pollock held the same office for three years, during which time he examined the bodies of more than 300 women, and in every case the uterus was cut open and examined. In 4 uteri ulceration was observed, but 3 of these were scrofulous patients, and scrofulous ulceration existed in other organs. In the 4th case the ulceration must have been cancerous, as it involved the vagina extensively as well as the os uteri. Mr. Hewett and Mr. Pollock did not therefore observe a single example of simple ulceration of the os and cervix in the 900 uteri they examined, which confirms the accuracy of the opinion given by Dr. Boyd, that "ulceration of the neck or mouth of the womb is a very rare disease."

Mr. Gray succeeded Mr. Pollock at St. George's Hospital, and he examined 180 uteri. Distinct ulceration of the os and cervix was only observed by him in three uteri, and the nature of the ulceration in those three cases was not determined with certainty. Mr. Gray states to me further, that redness, slight abrasions, and granulations were sometimes, but not frequently, observed.

Neither in the living nor in the dead body have I ever seen ulceration of the os and cervix uteri except of a SPECIFIC character, and especially scrofulous and cancerous; but I have met with a very considerable number of cases, in which it had been affirmed by others to exist during life after deliberate and repeated examination by them with the speculum, where I ascertained, that ulceration did not exist in the os and cervix uteri, nor disease of any kind. This mistake

has happened not once, and to one individual, but in a number of cases, and to several practitioners who avow that they are "in the daily and almost hourly use of the speculum."

Two years ago, I saw a young unmarried lady suffering from hysteria. She had been examined with the speculum by a practitioner previously in attendance, and was declared to have an engorgement of the uterus and ulceration of the cervix. The speculum and caustic, twice a week for several months, were required, it was said, to complete the cure. At the request of the ordinary medical attendant of the family, I examined the os uteri both with and without the speculum, and he did the same most carefully, but no trace of ulceration or disease of any kind could be detected in the parts. We recommended that the patient should leave her couch, to which she had been doomed, and by the use of valerian, and other appropriate remedies, with exercise and sea-air, she speedily and most completely recovered without the speculum and caustic.

On the 3rd October, 1849, I was consulted by a lady, aged 20, who had enjoyed good health before her marriage. Soon after this, pregnancy took place; and for ten weeks, according to her own report, she was extremely ill, had constant sickness, pain in the region of the uterus, and in the legs; swimming in the head, inability to walk,—the whole nervous system was greatly disordered. Miscarriage took place in May 1848, about the tenth week, with much hemorrhage. I was requested by the patient's mother to examine the uterus, and to state whether it was in a sound or diseased condition. I did so by the touch, and ascertained that it was small, moveable, and neither displaced nor diseased, but very tender on pressure about the cervix. I was then requested to examine carefully with the speculum, and state whether or not ulceration existed in the mouth and neck of the womb, and whether one of the ovaria was not diseased. I did so, but could see nothing like an ulcer in these parts. I was then informed, that she had been examined by another physician with the speculum the day before, and that he had

declared, in the most positive manner, that ulceration existed, which would render it necessary for the patient to remain several months in London to have caustic frequently applied. I recommended her to return home immediately, to avoid the speculum and caustic, and trust her recovery to sea-air, carriage exercise, sedatives, and mild tonics. For some months the pains in the uterine region, and inability to walk continued; but in the progress of time all the symptoms wholly disappeared, without any other treatment being adopted; pregnancy again took place, she went to the full period, was safely delivered, suckled her child, and is now in the enjoyment of excellent health.

On the 22nd February, 1850, at the request of Dr. Page, Physician to St. George's Hospital, I saw a married lady, aged 32, who had suffered severely from hysteria, both before and after her marriage. She was the mother of several healthy children, the youngest being two years of age. The general health was good, the catamenia were regular, there was no leucorrhœa nor sign of uterine disease. This lady was, however, made to believe by a friend, who had herself been treated with the speculum and caustic during some months, that there was something wrong about her womb, and that she must, therefore, consult the practitioner referred to in the last case. The lady did so, and was immediately informed that she was labouring under inflammation and ulceration of the cervix, and that it would be necessary to come to London for six months, at least, be confined to her couch, and have caustic frequently applied through the speculum. I examined the os and cervix uteri of this patient, both with the finger and the eye, but I could discover no trace of inflammation, ulceration, excoriation, granulation, or disease of any kind whatever. Never in the whole course of my experience had I seen and felt the os and cervix uteri in a more healthy condition.

I will not fatigue the Society by relating the histories of many additional cases, which have come under my observation, in which it had been previously affirmed, after deliberate

examination with the speculum, that ulceration of the os and cervix uteri existed, where there was actually no ulceration nor disease of any kind.

Dr. Copland has communicated to me the following history of a remarkable case, in which the speculum was used, in my opinion, contrary to every scientific principle, and with fatal effects:—"A lady aged 50," says Dr. Copland, "had been several years afflicted with jaundice, and in the latter period of those years became paraplegic. The paraplegia was, to a certain extent, removed, so that she was able to drive out in her carriage. She had consulted several physicians before she came to me, and I had seen her repeatedly during the last few years. She had heard that a physician had cured the wife of a distinguished person of some very serious disease of the womb. When this was related to her, and that it was done in consequence of his employing a new method of examination, and that, by having recourse to this, he had not only cured the lady referred to, but was also better able than any other physician in London to find out the source of all diseases occurring in females, she went and consulted him, and at the same time informed him that she was under my care. This lady begged me to meet this practitioner in consultation, which I did, when he informed me what this new method of examination was. He stated, that from the previous conversation he had had with the patient, he believed that all her illness arose from disease of the uterus, and he wished to demonstrate this with the speculum. To this I answered, that there could be no disease of the uterus or its appendages, because the uterine functions had been performed regularly up to the age of 49 years, and that she had never complained of leucorrhœa, or of any uneasiness about the uterus. However, he succeeded in recommending, with the concurrence of this lady's married sister, who had accompanied her from the country, that an examination with the speculum should be made. I said it appeared to me wholly unnecessary, but I would leave the patient to her own discretion. The examination was commenced, and I remained some time, but was shocked with the

proceedings, for the hymen was unbroken, and the doors were all obliged to be closed to prevent the people in the house from hearing her screams and being alarmed. The examination went on, and after having stopped the greater part of an hour, during which it continued and was not completed, I left. About seven or eight days after this, I was informed that the paraplegic symptoms, which had previously been much mitigated, had become exasperated, and had extended so as to produce general palsy, and ultimately delirium and coma. She died in eight days after the examination with the speculum, and I requested an examination of the body to be made. This was done in the presence of Dr. King, two surgeons from Woolwich, and myself. The operator with the speculum was also requested to attend, but he did not appear. The spine was opened, and as high as the first and second dorsal vertebra lymph was effused between the membranes, but it was not recent, and was partially converted into a gelatinous adipose substance. But above this, and up as high as the base of the brain, there were indications of recent inflammation, with a copious effusion of coagulated lymph observed. The uterus and all its appendages were perfectly healthy, the os cervix and every part of the uterus was in a sound state, and the vagina also was perfectly healthy except at its orifice, which presented appearances of recent violence. The hymen was completely torn."*

These are all the observations which I shall now offer, on the use of the speculum in the diagnosis and treatment of uterine diseases.†

* Dr. Copland has since published, in the Dictionary of Practical Medicine, his opinions respecting the use of the speculum in the diagnosis of uterine diseases; and I perceive, with deep regret, that the history of the foregoing case, with all its fearful consequences ,appears to have wholly passed from his memory.

† Medico-Chir. Transactions. Vol. xxxiii. 1850.

THE HISTORY

OF

THREE HUNDRED CASES

IN WHICH THE SPECULUM HAD BEEN ABUSED.

SINCE the publication of the Paper now referred to, 217 cases of real or imaginary disease of the uterus have come under my observation—197 being private patients—in which the speculum had been employed. Written histories, containing all the details of these cases, have been preserved, which I have condensed into a tabular form, and are now presented to the Society.

Of these 217 patients, 36 were unmarried, and 55 were married, but barren. Of the above 91 cases, the greater number were women suffering from hysteria, leucorrhœa, dysmenorrhœa, or some nervous affection of the uterus, without inflammation, ulceration, or any structural disease or displacement of the organ. In none, had the symptoms been permanently relieved by cauterizing the uterus, through the speculum; and in some, they were aggravated by the treatment pursued. Of the 36 unmarried patients, who had undergone longer or shorter courses of treatment, with the speculum and caustic, and had the parts injured, it appears from the Table that there were only two above 40 years of age: that there were a number under 30: two under 20; and that one, who had long been subject to this treatment, barely completed her eighteenth year.

Of the 55 married but sterile women, it likewise appears that their ages varied from 22 to 54, and that some organic disease existed in several, who had been subjected to this mode of treatment after their 48th year.

In a considerable number of these 217 cases, cancerous disease of the uterus and vagina existed; the frequent employment of the speculum and caustic being in every instance

followed by an increase of pain and hemorrhage. In one, death from loss of blood speedily followed the use of the speculum, employed by a practitioner who met me in consultation. In most of these cases of cancer, the nature of the disease must have been wholly misunderstood; and the ulceration supposed simple, which was in reality malignant, and beyond the reach of all remedies.

In several marked cases contained in this Table, ovarian and uterine tumours existed, or diseases of the parts at the entrance to the vagina, which had been entirely overlooked; but were immediately detected by the ordinary methods of investigation.

No. 1, 1850. Married. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—Dysmenorrhœa and leucorrhœa since the birth of youngest child, fifteen years before. In October examined with speculum: ulceration of os uteri stated to be present; leeches applied, then caustic every fourth day for ten weeks; afterwards at longer intervals. A new action then said to be set up in the part; symptoms aggravated; tonics; injections of zinc and alum; tepid hip-baths. *Present State.*—Os uteri felt soft, smooth, and swollen; a little hardness on the inner surface of the cervix; a small red patch on the anterior lip, near the left side, seen through the speculum; not elevated or depressed; did not bleed on pressure; no ulceration nor cicatrix visible.

No. 2, 1850. Married three years; barren. Age, 32.—*Previous History.* — Leucorrhœa; pain in the groins; prostration of strength; hysteria. A great variety of remedies employed with temporary benefit. About Christmas, examined with speculum, and "a considerable ulcer of os uteri" said to exist. Lunar caustic applied weekly through the speculum during two months; bougies then employed to dilate os uteri; sterility not removed, nor symptoms; since has had constant pain around the left ilium. *Present State.*— Uterus lower than natural; os soft, and smooth; unusually open and tender: no ulceration nor cicatrix.

No. 3, 1850. Single. Age, 42. *Previous History.*—

Painful hemorrhoidal tumours; torpid state of liver, stomach, and bowels; inability to walk. Uterus examined: said to be retroverted, and various metallic instruments used without relief; stricture of rectum afterwards said to exist, for the relief of which bougies employed, which excited great pain. Speculum then used, and os uteri said to be largely ulcerated, and body enlarged, and pressing on the rectum. Caustic recommended, but not allowed. *Present State.* — Os uteri red, slightly excoriated; body enlarged; health broken.

No. 4, 1850. Single. Age, 28. *Previous History.*—Hysteria; pain of right groin; restlessness and sleeplessness at night; leucorrhœa. Had sustained an injury a year before, and was some time confined to bed. Examined with speculum, and os uteri said to be ulcerated. Speculum and caustic used three times every week during five months; then reported to be "cured," but all the symptoms returned in an aggravated form. *Present State.*—Os uteri and body of uterus in a perfectly healthy state; no cicatrix.

No. 5, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 29.—*Previous History.*—Leucorrhœa. Went to an hospital, where the house surgeon examined with speculum, and stated that there was ulceration of the os uteri and cervix; speculum and caustic employed every Tuesday and Friday during two months. This was invariably followed by pain and hemorrhage, "so that she could not walk home;" symptoms aggravated. *Present State*—The uterus, both without and with the speculum, appeared perfectly healthy.

No. 6, 1850. Single. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Hysteria, dysmenorrhœa, and leucorrhœa for ten years; pain in the right knee, back, and right side. Examined with speculum, and inflammation of uterus said to exist. Twelve leeches externally; steel, wine, warm hip-baths, without relief. Uterus again examined with speculum, when "engorgement and ulceration" were stated to be present. During five weeks speculum and caustic frequently used; symptoms not relieved; injections; treatment continued; catamenia irregular; "ulcers of the womb, enlargement and adhesion," then said to exist; an operation of some sort per-

formed, which was followed by hemorrhage; no benefit. *Present State.*—Examined both by the touch and sight, and found the uterus healthy.

No. 7, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—Menorrhagia, with sensation of fulness and weight about the uterus for several years. Twelve months ago examined with speculum, when ulceration was said to exist; caustic applied; afterwards pregnancy suspected. *Present State.*—A hard tumour is now felt in hypogastrium; body of uterus enlarged and indurated; neck shortened; posterior lip red, like a raspberry, and when pressed with speculum, blood oozed out; no ulcer or cicatrix.

No. 8, 1850. Married. Age, 50.—*Previous History.*—Swelling of the abdomen; irregularity of the catamenia, and some symptoms of pregnancy. Uterus examined, found healthy, and in the unimpregnated state; then informed that a few days before the patient had been examined with the speculum, and informed that there "was an ulcer in her womb the size of half a crown; and that, if not immediately attended to, it would soon end in cancer." Three months' treatment with speculum and caustic, it was said, would be required for the cure of this ulcer. *Present State.*—Examined os uteri with speculum: both lips were unusually red, but no ulcer to be seen; health subsequently perfectly restored without speculum and caustic.

No. 9, 1850. Single. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Leucorrhœa four months after delivery of first child; excoriation of external parts and constant pain. Examined with speculum, and fissures of os uteri said to be detected; lunar caustic applied with apparent benefit; discharge returned; pregnancy again took place before the treatment had been completed; safely delivered of a second child; discharge again took place. Examined with speculum, and cauterized without relief. Four months ago again examined with speculum, and ulceration said to exist. Potassa fusa severely applied; sloughing followed. *Present State.*—Os uteri hard, rough, and irregular; discharge profuse; in constant pain; health deeply injured by the treatment.

No. 10, 1850. Unmarried. Age 30.—*Previous History.*—Till eight years before, had enjoyed good health; some violence then committed upon her; has since been delivered of a child, and leading an irregular life; reported to have profuse discharge. Her medical attendant had examined with the speculum, and stated to me in consultation that there was a great ulcer of the os uteri. *Present State.*—No symptom of uterine disease; os and cervix uteri without and with speculum apparently healthy. The practitioner, who supposed that he had seen an ulcer, again examined with the speculum, and freely admitted on the occasion that no ulcer existed, and that he had been deceived by appearances.

No. 11, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 29.—*Previous History.*—Dysmenorrhœa, leucorrhœa, irritability of uterus. *Present State.*—Os uteri low down, soft, and smooth; body lying upon the rectum. Being informed that the patient would not be satisfied with an ordinary examination, the speculum was employed at the request of her medical attendant, who met me in consultation; and who was disposed, from the symptoms, to believe that ulceration might exist; os uteri red, but healthy.

No. 12, 1850. Married; barren eight years. Age, 32.—*Previous History.*—Inflammation of the uterus and its appendages nine years ago, after the delivery of her first and only child. Attacks of pain during the last four years in the right side of hypogastrium; a year ago pain increased, and extended down the lower extremity, and over the whole abdomen; catamenia scanty and irregular; the speculum and caustic employed twice a week for two months, and then once a week during the last two months. *Present State.*—Now worse than when the treatment commenced; uterus in the natural situation; anterior lip projects unusually; a fissure on the right side; os open; lips red; no ulceration; symptoms not relieved.

No. 13, 1850. Married; barren. Age 31. — *Previous History.*—Dysmenorrhœa, leucorrhœa; general health good, but inability to walk. Two months ago, speculum used, and caustic applied to the anterior lip, which was said to be

redder than natural. Application of caustic, followed by a red discharge. *Present State.*—Dysmenorrhœa not relieved; os uteri red; a Nabothean gland enlarged on right side; anterior lip irregular, as if injured.

No. 14, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 26. — *Previous History.*—An inflammatory attack about the uterus soon after marriage; afterwards dysmenorrhœa and leucorrhœa. Twelve months ago examined with speculum; os uteri said to be ulcerated, and had caustic applied, and took Tinct. Guiac. Ammoniat.; six leeches afterwards applied to os uteri; speculum and caustic since frequently applied, followed by great faintness and pain. Before the caustic was used, no pain except at the monthly periods; since then has had constant uneasiness, and has been unable to stand or walk. *Present State.*—Leucorrhœa greater than ever; anterior lip soft and spongy; whole os red, swollen, and irregular; viscid white fluid escaping from os uteri; no blood flowed from os when pressed with speculum; no benefit from treatment.

No. 15, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 30. — *Previous History.* —Inflammation of uterus eight years ago, three months after marriage; dysmenorrhœa since. Two years ago examined with speculum, and informed that the uterus was inflamed, but not ulcerated; that there was a fibrous deposit in the "uterine tissue." Leeches repeatedly to os uteri; no benefit; hysterical fits; pain in the back and thighs: 1st Jan. examined with the speculum, which showed that ulceration of cervix and os existed; speculum frequently used, and nitric acid applied; intense pain; this practice continued four months; symptoms not relieved; then treated by a homœopathist. *Present State.*—Os red, swollen, open; not ulcerated; white viscid discharge; irritable and capricious.

No. 16, 1850. Married; barren. Age 38.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia irregular; married twenty years; prolapsus uteri seven years after. Examined by a practitioner in Paris with speculum, and cauterized five times, which caused great pain; injections and baths. Uterus afterwards said to be retroverted; profuse leucorrhœa. *Present state.*—Os feels thick, soft, and puffy. An attempt to introduce the speculum

produced intense pain; uterus enlarged, in all probability from the presence of a fibrous tumour in its posterior wall.

No. 17, 1850. Married. Age, 22.—*Previous History.*—Great mental distress; almost constant pain in the back and hypogastrium, and left groin; sense of bearing down; profuse leucorrhœa. Her medical attendant, in consultation, said, "all the symptoms of ulceration are present in this case to repletion." *Present State.*—We examined with the speculum, when it appeared that the os uteri was in the most healthy condition; the lips pale, not swollen, os very little open; cervix felt neither elongated nor thickened; uterus a little lower than natural; white viscid fluid escaping from the os; nervous, miserable, and depressed. Recovered under proper constitutional treatment.

No. 18, 1850. Married; five children. Age 40.—*Previous History.*—Since the birth of youngest child has resided long within the tropics. Catamenia every three weeks; hysterical; leucorrhœa since the birth of youngest child, five years ago; twelve months ago lost the power of walking from pain in the sacrum. Examined with speculum, and os uteri reported to be red and swollen, especially anterior lip; scarification employed; symptoms not relieved; returned to West Indies; symptoms aggravated; came back to England. Examined with speculum: os uteri in the same condition. *Present State.*—Os uteri of a dusky red colour, and swollen, especially anterior lip, apparently ready to burst; a copious viscid secretion flowing through os, not purulent; vagina red and swollen; no ulceration; leeches repeatedly applied; lunar caustic, then Liq. Plumb. Diacet., by means of a sponge tube; Bichloride of Mercury externally; no benefit.

No. 19, 1850. Single. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Hysteria; inability to walk; pain of back, for which leeches and blisters were applied; dysmenorrhœa; leucorrhœa during twelve months. Examined with speculum, and os and cervix uteri said to be inflamed and ulcerated. During seven weeks speculum and caustic frequently used, without benefit. After an interval, the same method of treatment again had recourse to, upwards of twenty times, without relief. *Present State.*

—Os uteri soft and smooth, lips small; cervix not enlarged or indurated, no ulceration, nor trace of cicatrix; vagina swollen; profuse leucorrhœa; violent uterine excitement, resulting from the long-continued use of speculum and caustic.

No. 20, 1850. Married. Age, 34.—*Previous History.*—Suffered long from headache and feeling of confusion; loss of sight and intellectual power; aversion to her children; "ideas of self-destruction;" sleepless nights; a sensation of a thread in her mouth. Twelve months' treatment with speculum and caustic; felt better as long as she remained on the couch; as soon as she began to move about symptoms returned. Five weeks ago examined with the speculum at Malvern, and the report was, "that the ulceration was not cured," and that the uterus was displaced; the practitioner stated further, that there was "a large lump in the neck of the womb;" lunar caustic twice applied through the speculum. On being informed that the strongest caustic was required, the patient left Malvern. *Present State.*—Body of uterus inclined forward; anterior lip swollen; no pus or blood brought away with the finger; a fissure on the left side, very irregular, and feeling ragged; little pain on examination; anterior lip seen swollen, but not vascular; posterior rough and irregular at the margin, but not ulcerated; did not bleed when probed.

No. 21, 1850. Single. Age, 23.—*Previous History.*—Was in good health four years ago. In June last year seized with pain in the head, back, loins, almost from head to foot; catamenia then regular; not hysterical. At Norwich was ordered a shower-bath, medicine, an issue in the arm, and leeches to the head and side; nine weeks this treatment pursued without relief; then had blisters to the chest and stomach, and a variety of medicines during three months; subsequently three months under the care of a physician, who prescribed other remedies without relief: then consulted a practitioner, who examined with the speculum, and said there was inflammation of the neck of the womb. The speculum and caustic were employed seven times; had no

leucorrhœa before the caustic was applied; has had a discharge ever since, but less pain at the monthly periods. *Present State*, eighteen months after this treatment.—Catamenia regular; trifling leucorrhœa after; os uteri small, smooth, cervix in the most natural state; no disease or displacement of uterus; the hymen broken up; vagina contracted; palpitation, faintness; pains in the eyes; flushes of heat; dyspnœa; pain in back and loins when she walks.

No. 22, 1850. Single. Age, 25.—*Previous History.*—Delicate in early life; indigestion; urticaria; pain of the back, and almost total inability to walk; catamenia regular, profuse, and accompanied with pain; tonics, sea-air, and bathing prescribed, two years ago, without much advantage; was informed that the "ligaments of the womb were relaxed, and that there was nervous irritability of the organ;" no leucorrhœa; seven months treated homœopathically, with apparent benefit. *Present State.*—Has been persuaded by a friend that she has ulceration of the womb, and urged to place herself under the care of Dr. ——. Examined without speculum, and found the uterus in the most healthy condition. With difficulty persuaded her that the speculum was not required; that she had no ulceration of the uterus, but succeeded in doing so. Since restored to health and happily married.

No. 23, 1850. Married. Age, 24.—*Previous History.*—Has made several voyages to the East, and resided between the tropics. Since the birth of her youngest child, two years ago, has had leucorrhœa. Was treated, in Liverpool, with caustic, for ulceration of the os uteri. Last week, a practitioner examined with the speculum, and "found the os in a vascular congested state." Was six months under treatment, with speculum and caustic; repeatedly scarified; symptoms not relieved. *Present State.*—Uterus low down, not retroverted nor displaced in any way; lips of os uteri tumid, but not hard or irregular; no ulcer or cicatrix; cervix more voluminous than natural, and the body also enlarged, the whole moveable; pain of hypogastrium; hysterical.

No. 24, 1850. Married. Age, 38.—*Previous History.*—

About a year ago, lost a child, which produced great mental distress. Since, has suffered from pain of the hypogastrium; sense of burning and itching in the vagina and uterus. Several months under the care of a practitioner, who frequently employed the speculum and caustic, without the least benefit. Went to Edinburgh, and was there told she had retroversion of the uterus, and that "if she remained there some months would be thoroughly cured." An attempt being made to introduce a metallic ring and prong into the vagina, was alarmed, and speedily re-crossed the Tweed. *Present State.*—Uterus in the natural situation; lips red and swollen; cervix and body exquisitely painful when touched; constant suffering from sense of heat and pain internally.

No. 25, 1850. Single. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—Had long suffered from dysmenorrhœa. Persuaded by a practitioner, in April last, to have bougies of different sizes passed through the os and cervix uteri. This was done thirteen times, each time the speculum having been previously introduced into the vagina, which gave "terrible pain;" the use of the bougies was followed by profuse menorrhagia and leucorrhœa. Another practitioner was then consulted, who examined with the speculum, and declared "the os and cervix uteri to be extensively ulcerated." The speculum was afterwards used fifteen times, and the parts cauterized. *Present State.*—Now wholly confined to her couch; health ruined; profuse menorrhagia. Uterus examined by the sense of touch, and no disease or displacement detected. Vagina widely dilated. Hymen gone.

No. 26, 1850. Widow. Age, 38.—*Previous History.*—Menstruation irregular. Severe nervous disorder, which commenced with the insanity and death of her husband. At times, decided hysterical attacks. Had consulted a practitioner, who had examined with the speculum, declared ulceration to exist, and had employed caustic through the speculum many times without any advantage. Consulted several other practitioners, one of whom thought she had diabetes, the others, irritability of the uterus. *Present State.*—Great derangement of the nervous system, bordering on mania; the

os, cervix, and body of uterus in a perfectly healthy state; extreme tenderness on pressure around the cervix.

No. 27, 1850. Married. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Has had several children and miscarriages. Profuse menstruation six years, and leucorrhœa: pain in the back, and inability to walk; hemorrhoids four years; scrofulous diathesis. Has undergone a long course of treatment with the speculum and caustic, without the slightest benefit. *Present State.*—Anterior lip of os uteri thickened, posterior healthy; several Nabothean glands enlarged; no ulceration to be seen; nor cicatrix.

No. 28, 1850. Married. Age, 29.—*Previous History.*—Has had three children, and has suffered severely in each pregnancy; pain in the back, and inability to walk, since the last confinement, in 1844. Then examined with the speculum, and told the womb was ulcerated. Nitrate of silver applied through the speculum, repeated leeching, without benefit. *Present State.*—Uterus lower than natural; os uteri swollen, red, not ulcerated; glands enlarged; a yellowish viscid discharge escapes in large quantities from the os; no disease of the cervix detected; body of uterus not felt enlarged.

No. 29, 1850. Married. Age, 51.—*Previous History.*—Two children, the younger nine years old. Five months ago began to suffer from bearing down, and pain extending along the thighs and calves of the legs; continued violent pain in the region of the uterus; catamenia ceased in January, after which had leucorrhœa, and swelling of the hypogastrium. Was examined with the speculum, but not cauterized. *Present State.*—Uterus now in its natural situation, enlarged on the right side; os irregular; two fissures; some redness within the orifice, a clear viscid fluid escaping from it; hypogastrium distended, but no fluid or solid tumour detected; great tenderness in the region of the liver.

No. 30, 1850. Married. Age, about 35.—*Previous History.*—Had one child twelve years since. Before this confinement, had abscess about the parts while pregnant, which repeatedly broke and gathered again. Some years since, consulted a surgeon about the affection, and from that time

till eight months ago it has given little trouble. Then consulted Dr. ——, who examined with the speculum, and applied caustic to the os uteri seven times through the speculum; complaint aggravated; and since, there have been attacks of inflammation and suppuration. *Present State.*—Os and cervix uteri healthy; the inner surface of the left nympha red and swollen; a small round aperture on the outside, through which a probe was passed into a sinus in the interior of the nympha.

No. 31, 1850. Married. Age, 47.—*Previous History.*—Long subject to leucorrhœa; during two years, menstruation more frequent than usual; general debility. Since April, hardly ever free from coloured discharge, and has had more pain extending down the thighs; irritation of the bladder; walls of vagina hard and contracted. *Present State.*—Great hardness, irregularity, and ulceration of the whole lower part of the uterus; the lips and neck confounded together; a bloody, fetid discharge, as in cases of ulcerated carcinoma of the uterus. At the request of her medical attendant, employed the speculum, and saw a bloody, irregular, ulcerated surface: the nature of the disease ascertained before the speculum was used in this case.

No. 32, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Married three years; soon after, dyspepsia, and irregular menstruation; leucorrhœa during two years. In May, examined with speculum, and informed that there was congestion of uterus, and leeches were applied repeatedly, then lunar caustic through the speculum every six days during two months. For a time felt better, but symptoms return. *Present State.*—Pain of abdomen; indigestion; leucorrhœa; os uteri small, smooth, and pointed; cervix slender; no ulceration or disease, except a slight abrasion from the caustic recently applied.

No. 33, 1850. Married. Age, middle.—*Previous History.*—Twelve months ago, not long after her marriage, became extremely nervous, and was alarmed, from uneasy sensations about the uterus, that she had cancer. Consulted a homœopathist, who examined with the speculum, and applied caustic

many times. Pregnancy took place, and she was delivered with instruments after a protracted labour, of a dead child. *Present State.*—A favourable recovery. Uterus perfectly healthy.

No. 34, 1850. Married; barren. Age, Middle.—*Previous History.*—Married eight years. Violent hysteria in early life. Four years ago went to Paris, and was examined with speculum, and informed that she was labouring under inflammation of the uterus, and that a long course of treatment would be required. The Revolution occurring, came to London, and consulted a practitioner, who examined with the speculum, "who said it was a clear case that there was great ulceration of the cervix, and that she must immediately put herself under surgical treatment. Caustic applied three times a week for months, occasionally leeches." This treatment lasted from September till May, when "she was reduced to a skeleton." Potassa fusa afterwards applied, which made her much worse. All local treatment abandoned. *Present State.*—No disease, or displacement of uterus.

No. 35, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 48.—*Previous History.*—Menorrhagia for many years; uterus large and hard, in all probability from the presence of a fibrous tumour in the walls. For a time appeared to derive benefit from the mineral waters of Germany. Since has suffered from pain in back; nausea, and there have been attacks of profuse menorrhagia. Recently examined by a practitioner in London, with the speculum, informed that there is ulceration of the os and cervix uteri, and has been cauterized seven times through the speculum. *Present State.*—Uterus large and hard; no ulceration or cicatrix.

No. 36, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 26.—*Previous History.*—In delicate health before her marriage. Tumours, probably ovarian, in the hypogastrium, first observed twelve months ago; they have not increased, and are not painful; catamenia regular, but painful. Two years ago, examined with the speculum, by a practitioner in a provincial town. The speculum and caustic employed every week for three months, followed by great weakness, and "discharge of

slime;" distressing irritation about the rectum and bladder. *Present State.*—Leucorrhœa; sensation of constant heat and pain about the uterus; os uteri smooth, and regular; since the caustic was applied, has never been free from heat and irritation of parts; tumour stationary.

No. 37, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 50.—*Previous History.*—In 1848, uneasiness about the uterus, and discharge from the vagina; after some time, a small vascular tumour seen growing through the os uteri, believed to be of a malignant nature. Soothing treatment recommended. Returned into the country. Speculum occasionally employed; tumour seen slowly increasing. In November, 1848, the tumour being as large as a walnut, consulted a practitioner, who used the speculum, and recommended the application of potassa fusa; tumour enlarged, and filled the vagina; afterwards, repeatedly destroyed with potassa fusa; grew again, and proved fatal.

No. 38, 1850. Married. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia have entirely disappeared during six months; emaciation gradually going on without any obvious cause. Twelve months ago, examined with the speculum, and ulceration of the cervix uteri said to exist. Confined three months wholly to her couch, and two months since, had the uterus frequently rubbed with nitrate of silver. Her health then rapidly declined, and has never since recovered. *Present State.*—Fancies herself *enceinte,* but she is not; no enlargement, nor hardness of abdomen; uterus neither diseased nor displaced; os smooth; orifice a little open; no hardness; body a little larger than ordinary; rapid pulse; gradually sank.

No. 39, 1850. Married; four children. Age, 34.—*Previous History.*—Three miscarriages. Catamenia regular; great pains in the breasts, across the back; has an idea that she has an aneurism. Has been examined, and informed that she has retroversion of the uterus, and was persuaded to try to have passed into the vagina a metallic ring and prong; wore it six weeks, and then it became intolerable; great pain in the uterus ever since, and profuse discharge. Then

examined with speculum, and underwent a long course of cauterizing. In severe suffering ever since. *Present State.* —Uterus low down; os open; enlarged glands; slight irregularity and hardness. June, 1851—No change.

No. 40, 1850. Single. Age, 23.—*Previous History.*—Ill during six years, owing it was supposed to riding on horseback. Catamenia regular, but painful; frequent desire to relieve the bladder; fits of hysteria; constant headache; "sense of pressure on the top of the brain." Examined with speculum, and caustic frequently applied; violent uterine excitement followed, and immoral habits, which rendered her miserable. *Present State.*—No organic uterine disease.

No. 41, 1850. Married. Age, 26. *Previous History.*—Two years ago, went overland to India, during her first pregnancy, and then made a journey of 400 miles into the interior. Prolapsus uteri followed delivery. A few months after, having leucorrhœa, was examined with the speculum, and ulceration of the neck of the uterus was said to exist; and during eight months, she was cauterized every third day, and the os uteri frequently scarified and leeched. Her health dreadfully injured by the long confinement and the treatment, and there was almost constant pain. Arrived in London two days ago, having had inflammation of the lungs during the voyage. *Present State.*—Leucorrhœa continues; os uteri hard and irregular; lips apparently partially destroyed; body not diseased. Gradually restored to health.

No. 42, 1850. Married; barren. Age, 32.—*Previous History.*—Married seven years before. Catamenia regular, but painful; general health good, but hysterical. Soon after her marriage, had pains in the groin and region of the uterus. Was examined with the speculum: declared to have ulceration, and underwent a long course of treatment with caustic and leeches, without any benefit. During the last three years, fits of hysteria; giddiness, and confusion; dimness of vision; sleepless; irritation of bladder; violent pains in the back, and at times between the shoulders. To remove the sterility, bougies were passed into the os uteri for some months, without any good effect. Examined with speculum, by a third

practitioner, in London, who applied caustic to the os once a week for two months; no relief. Examined with speculum, by a fourth London practitioner, and caustic was applied three times a week for "months and months." A fifth practitioner consulted, who stated that "there were four bars across the mouth of the womb, which must be dilated." *Present State.*—Prolapsus uteri; os and cervix healthy, but forced unusually low in the pelvis.

No. 43, 1850. Married. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—Some accident during her first labour. In the interval of three years between the birth of her second and third children, was under the care of two physicians, in London, who employed the speculum and caustic frequently during many months. Three hundred leeches were also used externally, by which her strength was greatly reduced; gradually was restored to health, but relapsed, and "again went through the same mode of treatment at intervals." Last delivery took place six years ago, since then has been suffering "from violent sickness and spasm; hysteria; palpitation of the heart, exhaustion," and inability to walk. Mercurial suppositories twice weekly; croton oil rubbed externally. *Present State.*—In a state of great debility; swelling of feet and ankles; palpitation of heart; profuse leucorrhœa; unfit for any duty in life. No disease of uterus detected. The health of this patient was in time completely restored by rational constitutional treatment.

No. 44, 1850. Married. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Married four years. Profuse leucorrhœa soon after took place. Consulted a practitioner, who declared it to be of a specific nature. A second declared it was not. Was seven months under his care, and had the speculum and caustic frequently used, "which made her very ill." Great tenderness of vagina. *Present State.*—Vagina contracted, so much that a small bougie was introduced with great difficulty, and caused much pain. In the course of three months the complete dilatation was safely effected by bougies; pregnancy took place, and the delivery was natural.

No. 45, 1851. Married. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—

Three children. Profuse menstruation since the last delivery, sixteen years ago; congestion of the brain; weakness of the stomach, and general debility; left ovarium supposed to be diseased; "uterus retroverted or rather anteverted." Ricord's speculum employed, which "gives great and lasting pain." "A tumour in the fore wall or surface of the organ." "A great quantity of baths, mixed with sea-salt and salt of Kreuznach;" no benefit. "Iron, quinine, diluted sulphuric and muriatic acids, and phosphorus and opium, without relief; and mercury, iodine and secale cornutum." Injections with liq. hydr. *Present State.*—Os and cervix uteri perfectly healthy, lying far back in the pelvis; a large, hard, fibro-cartilaginous tumour in the anterior wall of the uterus.

No. 46, 1851. Married; barren. Age, 23. *Previous History.*—Married three years and a half. Two years has been treated for "inflammation of the os and cervix uteri;" "leeches applied several times with little benefit, and blistering and cupping the lumbar region; bougies, poppy-head decoction and other injections, suppositories, aperients, hip-baths, &c., abstinence." Hysteria; menstruation profuse and painful, and irregular; pain when the urine is passed, and it is clear; severe headaches; constipation; bad appetite; pain, and a burning sensation in the back; flatulence; swelling of abdomen; leucorrhœa. Has been examined with the speculum, and frequently cauterized and scarified. Ulceration said to exist. *Present State.*—Suffering from hysteria, in its most marked forms; os and cervix uteri perfectly healthy, no displacement, smooth, not swollen, nor hotter nor more tender than usual.

No. 47, 1851. Married. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Four children; suckled the last too long; great weakness; bearing down; catamenia not regular; violent pains in the back and loins; pain of the shoulders; "dreadfully nervous," and anxious on her husband's account; sense of suffocation, and ball in the throat; discharge from uterus, like treacle, between the monthly periods; irritation about the bladder. Examined with the speculum, by a London practitioner, and has had caustic used extensively. Ulceration of os and cervix

uteri said to exist. No better. *Present State.*—Os uteri seen red, swollen, not ulcerated; anterior lip somewhat irregular; no tendency to any organic disease.

No. 48, 1851. Married; barren. Age, 33.—*Previous History.*—Married at nineteen; ever since has suffered from sense of scalding pain about the bladder; in the hypogastrium and back; and unable to walk. A London practitioner saw her twice every week during seven years. Was examined with the speculum; declared to have ulceration of the os and cervix, which was cauterized many times; since, has had a yellow discharge. At each monthly period confined to bed. No benefit derived from this treatment, which has been repeated by another practitioner, with leeching, &c. *Present State.*—Swelling of ankles; digestion bad; constant sense of pressure upon the head; extremely nervous and miserable, and useless for all good purposes; only comfortable after she has taken a blue pill and a black draught; vagina very contracted and tender; uterus not displaced; os open; lips sound; no disease of organ.

No. 49, 1851. Married. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Dangerous attacks of uterine hæmorrhage during her confinements. "The hæmorrhage said to proceed from the inner surface of the uterus, and the only effectual remedy, cauterization." "Subsequent ulceration of the anterior lip of the mouth of the womb." 26th Aug., looks extremely well; catamenia last period not excessive, and without pain; anterior lip of os uteri smooth, swollen, and harder than natural; posterior lip thin, and irregular; no ulceration of either lip; caustic had been applied more than twenty times.

No. 50, 1851. Married. Age, 33.—*Previous History.*—One child three years since. Leucorrhœa six months after, and violent pain in the hypogastric region and back. Mercury to salivation; tinct. of iodine applied to the os uteri through the speculum three times every week during four months. "Has not benefited in the least degree by the treatment." *Present State.*—Os uteri seen swollen, and red on the inside, not unusually open; a copious thick discharge

escaping from the orifice; no trace of any ulceration, which was said to exist, and no cicatrix visible.

No. 51, 1851. Married; barren. Age, 34.—*Previous History.*—Married two years. Catamenia regular, with great pain in the back; great mental anxiety from a Chancery suit. Examined with speculum: os and cervix uteri declared to be ulcerated, and caustic applied. *Present State.*—Complains of burning heat all over the left side of the lower part of abdomen, which often feels swollen; vagina contracted and tender; no disease of uterus detected.

No. 52, 1851. Married. Age, 25.—*Previous History.*—One child about three years ago, afterwards had leucorrhœa. Consulted a practitioner, who made an examination with the speculum, ulceration reported to exist, and cauterization employed during two months; leucorrhœa ceased. *Present State.*—The discharge has re-appeared very profusely, "in fact, is quite as ill as she was before the caustic through the speculum was used;" catamenia have disappeared three months; veins of legs swollen; uterus enlarged from pregnancy. The delivery took place at the beginning of October, suckled her child, and restored to good health.

No. 53, 1851. Single. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Occasional profuse sanguineous discharges from the uterus, at other times leucorrhœa; is reported to have had "engorgement of the uterus." *Present State.*—Uterus large and hard, from the presence of a fibrous tumour in its walls. A London practitioner was afterwards consulted, who examined with the speculum.

No. 54, 1851. Married; barren. Age, 28. — *Previous History.*—Married two years. Pain in the back and sides; loss of strength. In October last, examined at Edinburgh with the speculum, and informed that "the cause of her sufferings was a small ulcer on the neck of the womb," and "blue ointment pessaries were recommended," one of which was introduced daily. Afterwards informed by the same practitioner, that her complaint was "a small fibrous tumour in the neck of the womb." Got worse under the treatment. *Present State.*—In London, examined with the speculum and

without. No disease detected; since restored to perfect health; and was lately delivered of a healthy infant.

No. 55, 1851. Married. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Several children, the youngest twelve years. Catamenia regular, till last Jan.; at times, for some years, leucorrhœa, more profuse, and sometimes red coloured during the last seven months; loss of strength; no pain. *Present State.*—Os uteri now open; lips irregular; nodulated feel of the inner surface of the posterior lip; the commencement of fungoid cancer, a long course of severe cauterization carried on by the practitioner through the speculum. Nature of disease wholly misunderstood. Death with great sufferings some time after.

No. 56, 1851. Single. Age, 38.—*Previous History.*—Had suffered long from nervous weakness, and inability to walk. July, 1849, was examined with the speculum, at New York, and repeatedly cauterized. On returning to London, consulted a practitioner, who stated, after using the speculum, that there was prolapsus and retroversio uteri; the prone posture was recommended, and observed during nine months. Twelve months ago, ceased to lie with her face to the ground: and was declared to be quite cured. Soon after, began to suffer from headache, lowness of spirits, and "lost the power of walking in public, in private she could walk like other people." Then consulted a somnambulistic-mesmerist, who declared there was disease both of the uterus and spine. *Present State.*—Uterus healthy, but suffering from hysteria, &c. &c.

No. 57, 1851. Married. Age, 43.—*Previous History.*—Three children. An abortion ten months ago, followed by menorrhagia; health long delicate; attacks of vomiting of blood. Examined with speculum, by a practitioner, in London, two months ago; ulceration of the os uteri said to exist; cauterized once. *Present State.*—Considerable discharge of blood from the uterus; irregular action of the heart; anterior lip of os uteri swollen; several glands slightly enlarged; a fissure seen on the left side; no ulceration or abrasion; the posterior lip red, and slightly swollen.

No. 58, 1851. Single. Age, 18.—*Previous History.*—For some time had suffered from hysteria, nervous weakness, inability to walk, dysmenorrhœa, and leucorrhœa. Was persuaded to consult a London practitioner. When examined: engorgement and ulceration of the cervix reported to be present. The usual treatment followed, and was often "touched with caustic." During twelve months she lay upon the couch and read novels. *Present State.*—No disease or displacement of the uterine organs. Relatives state "her character is totally changed, that she is completely vitiated, and that after being long in the hands of this practitioner, she could not be got out again, being so infatuated with the affair." There was every reason to believe the correctness of these statements, as also to conclude that, the frequent and long-continued use of the speculum and caustic had occasioned a demoralizing effect, as it was acknowledged to have produced upon other patients, whose cases are comprehended in this Table.

No. 59, 1851. Married; five children. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Five children, the youngest four months old. The labour protracted and preternatural; followed by hæmorrhage; great debility. Went to Malvern, and was treated homœopathically and hydropathically, but did not regain her strength. Then examined with speculum, and told there was ulceration of the uterus; and was frequently cauterized. Leucorrhœa and great pain followed this; fever, and peculiar nervous depression; sleeplessness. *Present State.*—Nervous, and in danger of mania. Within the orifice a little redness seen. No ulceration nor organic disease of any kind detected.

No. 60, 1851. Single. About, 30.—*Previous History.*—"For some time past has suffered from great debility, languor, and dysmenorrhœa." Tonics given without benefit. "Came under the care of another medical man, who considered that she had ulceration of the os uteri, and treated her with caustic." "This I have considered uncalled for," said her ordinary medical attendant. *Present State.*—Dysmenorrhœa, leucorrhœa, diminished; is fickle and changeable; at times suffers great debility; appetite good; functions and general appear-

ance healthy; os uteri remarkably small, soft, and smooth; orifice closed, as usual, in those who have not had children.

No. 61, 1851. Married. Age, 47.—*Previous History.*—Three children, the youngest eighteen years of age. After each labour the bones at the symphysis pubis are reported to have become "disunited, and she was not able to walk." Still occasionally feels stiffness there. Catamenia regular. A year ago great enlargement of the abdomen took place, with sense of dragging and bearing down pain. Uterus has never appeared externally. In March last a ring pessary passed, which could not be worn. Then examined with speculum, and ulceration said to exist; repeatedly cauterized without any benefit. *Present State.*—Os uteri open; an enlargement felt between uterus and rectum.

No. 62, 1851. Married; barren. Age, 23.—*Previous History.*—Married two and a half years; in good general health, but strumous; catamenia regular; pain in the back, and leucorrhœa, especially after excitement. Her husband's sister, who has long been treated with the speculum and caustic, has endeavoured to persuade her that she has "an ulcer of the womb." *Present State.*—No displacement or organic disease of the uterus, which is very small; the orifice smooth, and the lips healthy.

No. 63, 1851. Single. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia painful and scanty since the age of sixteen. Several years under the care of a medical practitioner, and treated for liver disease. Four years under homœopathic treatment in the country. Two years consulted a London physician, who examined her with the speculum, and said there was ulceration of the uterus. "Leeches applied every week, and caustic a great many times;" hysterical. *Present State.*—"Nervous system shaken;" leucorrhœa between the monthly periods; severe headache; palpitation of the heart; soreness of the chest; ankles swell at night; "dreadful feeling of bearing down about the womb;" feeling of swelling about the back; heat and pain; thinks she has derived benefit from the treatment; still very ill; vagina, os, and

cervix uteri in the most healthy condition; numerous boils around the external parts.

No. 64, 1851. Married; barren. Age under 30.—*Previous History.*—Hysterical fourteen years, and ill during the whole of that time from supposed inflammation of the bladder. Scalding in passing urine, and great aching before and after; throbbing in the epigastrium; catamenia regular, but very profuse. During nine years has been under the care of a London physician for "inflammation and ulceration of the womb." Leeches applied many times. "I cannot tell the number of times the speculum has been used, and the caustic." *Present State.*—No displacement or organic disease of the uterus detected. Her husband suffers from stricture, and has recently undergone an operation.

No. 65, 1851. Married; barren. Age, 26.—*Previous History.*—Married nine months; hysterical; spasms in the hypogastric region; pain about the uterus; leeches were applied externally without relief; decided antiphlogistic treatment. Feb. Uterus examined by touch, and said to be enlarged; soon after, the speculum was employed; inflammation said to be present; and leeches applied to the os, which bled profusely, "attended with much relief." Scarifications also employed; "neck of uterus said to be tumid, red, inflamed, and tender." Calomel, opium, iodide of potassium, used for several months, and iron. *Present State.*—Excitement and exertion still bring on violent pain about the uterus. Os and cervix uteri perfectly healthy; but there is hardness and enlargement of the body of the uterus. 8th May, 1852. This enlargement now chiefly on the right side. Hysterical symptoms aggravated.

No. 66, 1851. Married. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Youngest child six years of age. Sense of burning pain and heat about the uterus. Leucorrhœa during the last two years; and swelling of the extremities. Catamenia regular. Loss of strength and flesh during the last eleven months. Has been under the care of a provincial practitioner, who has often employed the speculum, caustic, and leeches; and who has assured her there is ulceration of the womb. Kept almost

entirely in the horizontal position. General health greatly impaired. Has also been treated hydropathically. *Present State.*—Vagina sound; no displacement of uterus; thickening and redness of the posterior lip of the os; no ulceration; os open, very tender; a copious cream-coloured discharge seen escaping from the orifice.

No. 67, 1851. Married twice. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Four children; great mental distress after the death of her first husband; second marriage fifteen months since; afterwards neuralgia and debility. Feb. 1851. Examined with speculum by a physician in London, and cauterized; "profuse bleeding followed this, and became much worse;" "constant discharge;" with hysterical symptoms; pains about the shoulders; and palpitation of the heart. In May the ulceration was said to be cured; alum injections and sea-bathing. *Present State.*—Complains of headache, of pain and irritation about the uterus and thighs, and right iliac region, with exhaustion; profuse leucorrhœa; anterior lip of os uteri large, soft, smooth; no ulceration or trace of cicatrix; posterior lip irregular, but not hard; a profuse, viscid, yellowish discharge proceeding from interior of uterus.

No. 68, 1851. Married seventeen years. Age, 38.—*Previous History.*—Ten children and two miscarriages. Since the last miscarriage, in delicate health; and has suffered from dragging pain in the back and loins, leucorrhœa, and occasional uterine hæmorrhages. Three years last February, three months after her confinement, examined, in a provincial town, with the speculum, when it was stated "that an ulcer of the mouth of the womb" existed, and on the verge of cancer. In the recumbent position till November; the speculum and caustic employed twice a week from April till November; health greatly injured. *Present State.*—Glands of cervix uteri enlarged; no ulceration or other disease detected.

No. 69, 1851. Married. Age, 24.—*Previous History.*—Three children, the youngest seven months old. Great leucorrhœal discharge has followed each delivery, not greater after the last than the previous confinements; has suckled

her child to the present time; examined by a practitioner with the speculum five weeks since; caustic repeatedly applied. *Present State.*—General health pretty good; has no pain about the back or groins, or sense of bearing down; the leucorrhœa still continues, but less; by the sense of touch, no hardness, or irregularity, or swelling of the os and cervix uteri detected; no blood escapes through the os, though pressed with the finger; os uteri seen unusually red, but not ulcerated or abraded.

No. 70, 1851. Married. Age, 28.—*Previous History.*—Six children; profuse leucorrhœa since the birth of the first, nine years ago; leucorrhœa has continued ever since, not only after her confinements, but during every pregnancy; her last child born two months ago; has since been led to suspect the existence of ulceration of the uterus; consulted to determine the fact, and requested to examine with and without the speculum. *Present State.*—Voice hoarse; cough, but no thoracic disease; vagina extremely relaxed, like a bag, without any contractility; uterus not displaced; os smooth, not swollen; cervix and body natural; os seen small, smooth, rather more pale than natural.

No. 71, 1851. Married. Age, 32.—*Previous History.*—Five children; a miscarriage six months ago; sense of bearing down about the uterus during the last two years, recently much aggravated: various remedies employed; strength impaired; at one period leucorrhœa; three years since examined with speculum, and cauterized; thinks she was better after, but symptoms have again returned. *Present State.*—Pain in back continues: no disease or displacement of uterus detected.

No. 72, 1851. Married; barren. Age, middle.—*Previous History.*—Ten years married to her first husband, and never pregnant; four years to her second husband, and sterile; bougies passed by a practitioner into the os uteri; inflammation followed, and an abscess about the external parts; examined, by another practitioner, with the speculum; engorgement, and ulceration of the os and cervix uteri declared to exist, and the speculum, caustic, and leeches applied at

short intervals during a whole year. *Present State.*—Health grievously injured; no disease of os or cervix uteri; abscess and fistulous opening in labium, relieved by operation.

No. 73, 1851. Married. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Three children, in India. Has ceased suckling her youngest child six weeks, and had abundance of milk. In delicate health since the birth of this child, and unable to walk. Examined with speculum at Calcutta, and said, by the practitioner, to have ulceration of the cervix uteri. Caustic and leeches frequently applied, without relief. Compelled to return to England. *Present State.*—Orifice of vagina exquisitely tender; the orifice red and slightly swollen; great pain produced by the introduction of the smallest speculum. Os uteri red, not much swollen, not ulcerated; a copious cream-coloured discharge.

No. 74, 1851. Single. Age, 58.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia ceased eight years ago. Afterwards had continual pain about the uterus. Examined with the speculum, and informed that she had cancer of the uterus. Caustic frequently applied, which it was said would check, though it would not cure, the disease. Since May last, great pain and aching of the thighs and legs, and pain across the lower part of the stomach and back. *Present State.*—Unable to get rest without medicine; bilious, but no regular attacks of sickness and vomiting; no discharge from the vagina; no pain nor difficulty in passing the urine; no disease whatever of the uterus; a great mass of painful hemorrhoidal tumours; nitric acid applied to these. 11th Feb., 1852. Is much better in all respects.

No. 75, 1851. Married. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—One child, three years old. Procidentia uteri took place, for the relief of which the metallic instrument called "the impaling uterine machine," was introduced into the vagina. Violent pain and inflammation speedily followed. Pain and purulent discharge afterwards took place. Afterwards examined with speculum, and frequently cauterized, and had leeches applied. *Present State.*—Catamenia regular; a deposit of adipose matter in the walls of the abdomen; uterus

lower down than natural; perfectly healthy; hysterical tympanites; great indigestion.

No. 76, 1851. Married. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—Seven children, youngest ten years old. During nine months, pain of the abdomen, extending down the right side under the liver. Constant desire to pass the urine; sickness at stomach. In April examined with the speculum, informed that inflammation and ulceration of the os and cervix uteri existed. Caustic and leeches frequently applied. *Present State.*—A tumour of no great size, situated in the pelvis behind the uterus, adhering to it and the rectum; os uteri irregular, but not hard; no ulceration or cicatrization.

No. 77, 1851. Married; barren. Age, 33.—*Previous History.*—Married at the age of 21; an abortion three years after; syphilis from her husband; seven years ago was delivered of a dead child, and has never been well since; dysmenorrhœa, leucorrhœa. Three years ago was examined with speculum, and told "she had ulceration of the womb." Speculum and caustic employed every fifth day for three months, then sea-bathing; symptoms not relieved; caustic frequently applied several months longer; its application usually followed by hæmorrhage. In 1850, disease said to be cured, but symptoms remained; a third course of speculum and caustic treatment; symptoms aggravated. *Present State.*—Health deeply injured; no uterine disease. 1854, general health greatly improved; no symptoms of uterine disease.

No. 78, 1852. Married. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Married fourteen years; suffered from uterine inflammation in the puerperal state nine years ago; since attacks of menorrhagia; a succession of abscesses about the parts; leucorrhœa; hysteria. Examined with speculum two years ago, and told that she had "ulceration of the os." Speculum and caustic used nineteen times. The discharges afterwards for a time decreased, but returned in an aggravated degree. *Present State.*—All the functions healthy; uterus slightly prolapsed; vagina remarkably tender; anterior lip of os uteri thick, spongy, and red, not ulcerated nor cicatrized;

Nabothean glands enlarged; no enlargement or induration of body or cervix.

No. 79, 1852. Married; barren. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—Has suffered many years from pain and various morbid sensations about the uterus; irregular and painful menstruation and profuse leucorrhœa; the ordinary sensibility of the uterine system totally wanting. To remove the sterility, and relieve these symptoms, dilatation of the os and cervix uteri, with bougies, without relief. A long course of treatment with the speculum and caustic since tried, without any good effect. *Present State.*—Sterility continues, and all the symptoms; no organic disease of uterus detected.

No. 80, 1852. Married; barren. Age, 24.—*Previous History.*—Married four years; soon after began to suffer from hysteria, with pain in the left side of the hypogastric region, extending down the left thigh. Examined with the speculum, and declared to have ovaritis on the left side; leeches applied, and a great variety of medicines taken without relief; catamenia profuse and painful. Examined with the speculum by another practitioner, and a suspicion expressed that the os uteri was ulcerated. *Present State.*—Catamenia profuse and painful; no enlargement or hardness of abdomen; great superficial tenderness between the umbilicus and ilium on left side; os uteri small, soft, and smooth; body not enlarged; slightly inclined forward; no tumour within pelvis; no ovarian disease detected.

No. 81, 1852. Married; barren. Age, 56.—*Previous History.*—Had a discharge from the vagina the previous year, and was out of health; went to Malvern, and was treated hydropathically during three or four months; the uterus then examined with and without the speculum, and the existence of ulceration "ascertained;" caustic was used for a time, combined with packing with wet napkins, with apparent advantage; at Christmas, placed herself under the care of a physician in London, who employed the speculum and caustic, sometimes thrice weekly, and prescribed the internal use of arsenic and iron. The symptoms then were chiefly pain and red discharge, and these were uniformly aggravated by the

treatment. *Present State.*—Ulcerated carcinoma of the os and cervix uteri and vagina, in an advanced stage.

No. 82, 1852. Single. Age, 28.—*Previous History.*—Hysterical fits; catamenia irregular, painful, and scanty; has occasionally lost the use of her limbs, and has at times been in danger of losing her reason; uterus often examined with speculum, and caustic applied. It is stated, that she has been in the habit of applying caustic herself to the uterus through the speculum. *Present State.*—No disease of uterus detected to justify such proceedings.

No. 83, 1852. Married. Age, 24.—*Previous History.*—Three premature confinements; catamenia regular; profuse leucorrhœa since the first delivery; ulceration of uterus reported to exist; speculum and caustic used, but not often; no benefit whatever. *Present State.*—Feeling of bearing down; pain in the right iliac region; uterus low down, near the orifice of the vagina; os open; lips soft; a fissure on the left side; a dark red appearance seen through the speculum within the orifice of the uterus, but no ulceration.

No. 84, 1852. Single. Age, 26.—*Previous History.*—Without mother or sisters, and under no proper control; has suffered from hysteria in every form for several years, and irritation and excitement about the uterus. Two years ago a physician examined her with the speculum, and reported that ulceration existed; long-continued use of speculum and caustic, this done without the knowledge of her father, or any of her relatives; symptoms not relieved; went and consulted another practitioner, under whose care she remained a whole year, and was frequently speculumized and cauterized. A third practitioner, according to her statement, adopted the same treatment some time after. *Present State.*—Hysterical and slightly maniacal; refused to examine the uterus either with or without the speculum; recommended moral treatment; 1855, in a wretched state of mental distress.

No. 85, 1852. Married. Age, 52.—*Previous History.*—Seven children; age of the youngest 18; always delicate; three years ago excessive menorrhagia; a small polypus detected with the finger, and removed; speculum and caustic

afterwards employed every fourth day, and then at longer intervals. Seven months ago got into bad health, and had a mucous discharge; body of uterus then thought to be enlarged, and leeches repeatedly applied to the orifice; several floodings since the removal of the polypus. *Present State.*—Ankles swollen; pain in the region of the right kidney; frequent sense of bearing down; tongue furred; no appetite; impaired health and strength; os uteri smooth and closed; body of uterus not enlarged, moveable in the pelvis; no displacement.

No. 86, 1852. Married; several children. Age, 48.—*Previous History.*—Has had a numerous family, and enjoyed good health till six months ago, then seized with pain in the back and hypogastrium; shooting down the nerves of the thighs, and about the groins; the appetite had failed, but there was no actual sickness; three months ago a flooding took place, which continued fourteen days, and then ceased. Examined with the speculum, and a favourable report given. *Present State.*—Profuse serous discharge; pain not acute about the back; both lips of os uteri affected with fungoid cancer.

No. 87, 1852. Married. Age, 55.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia ceased seven years ago; leucorrhœa in a trifling degree during four years. Sixteen months ago examined with the speculum, in London, and informed that there was ulceration of the uterus. Being much alarmed, returned home, and was examined again with the speculum by her own medical attendant, and informed that there was no ulceration of the uterus. *Present State.*—Leucorrhœa continues; good general health; little or no pain about the uterus; vagina in a healthy state; os uteri in the natural situation; posterior lip swollen, but smooth, and not hard; no bloody or fetid discharge; no organic disease of the uterus detected.

No. 88, 1852. Married; barren. Age, 38.—*Previous History.*—Married eight years; five years in Australia; since her return to England an affection of the liver, from which she had recovered. Five years ago, being sterile, and having a discharge from the vagina, consulted a physician in London, who made an examination with the speculum, and reported

that there was ulceration of the uterus; did not derive any essential benefit from the treatment, which was continued several months. *Present State.*—Uterus extremely small, orifice smooth; no hardness or irregularity; no organic disease of any kind detected.

No. 89, 1852. Married; five children. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—All the labours natural; ever since the last, five years ago, has had pain in the sacrum; catamenia profuse; feeling of bearing down; hysterical; pain on the top of the head; profuse leucorrhœa; two years ago, consulted a physician in London, during three months took bichloride of mercury; great irritation of mucous membrane of stomach and bowels followed; astringent injections; leucorrhœa continued. Examined with speculum, and "abrasion or ulceration of os uteri" said to exist, and thickening of the neck; then took oxide of silver, and used an injection with nitrate of silver; leeches twice applied to os uteri; afterwards had profuse menorrhagia. *Present State.*—Hysteria in a marked form; no organic disease of uterus observed.

No. 90, 1852. Married; four children. Age, 25.—*Previous History.*—The last child born on the 8th of April; is now suckling; coloured discharge from the vagina, with pain since the last confinement; had been exposed to much fatigue, and had hooping-cough during her last pregnancy. A week ago examined by her surgeon with the speculum, and the "vagina found much inflamed and ulcerated, and also inflammation with slight ulceration on the neck and mouth of the womb." "He applied caustic every other day." "Two of her sisters-in-law had suffered from the same complaint." *Present State.*—Abundance of milk for her child; lips of os uteri open; orifice patulous; body of uterus apparently imperfectly contracted; symptoms soon relieved by sea-bathing.

No. 91, 1852. Married. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—Three premature confinements in Italy, once a mass of serous cysts expelled from the uterus; a second marriage two years ago; sterile since; pain about the uterus, and leucorrhœa; at Vienna, treated hydropathically; supposed by a practitioner in London to arise from rheumatic gout of the uterus; twelve

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months ago examined with the speculum by another physician in London, and during ten months was under speculum and caustic treatment. *Present State.*—Leucorrhœa and pain about the uterus, and across the back continues; lips of os uteri smooth and regular; cervix not swollen or hard; body not enlarged; a little hardness on right side of uterus.

No. 92, 1852. Married; eight children. Age, 45.—*Previous History.*—After a miscarriage, thirteen years ago, had prolapsus uteri; more recently examined in London with the speculum, and leeches applied internally; a pessary then introduced, and worn two years. *Present State.*—Catamenia irregular, sometimes absent several months: critical age; os uteri with a fissure on left side, close to the orifice of the vagina.

No. 93, 1852. Married; barren. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—After a long walk, at New York, "felt suddenly as if something had snapped about the back;" since then an unpleasant sensation of bearing down experienced, and pain in the legs. Consulted a female American graduate in medicine, who made an examination with the speculum, and wrote the following statement: "*Result of examination made Jan. 8th,* 1852: *External genital organs healthy; sphincter vaginæ somewhat weak in tone; vagina healthy; os uteri low down; rather inclined forward; somewhat congested, with slight creamy discharge; cervix slender; fundus retro-flected at nearly a right angle, with an inclination to the left; uterus moveable, no tenderness on pressure.—Kramei. Radic.,* ʒiv., 31,605." *Present State.*—No displacement of the uterus, nor disease of any kind whatever.

No. 94, 1852. Single. Age, 21.—*Previous History.*—Hysterical, and suffered during three years pain internally; irregularity of the catamenia, for which Tinct. Guiac. Ammon. taken, and Liq. Plumb. Diacet. diluted, used as a lotion. Oct. 18th, 1851, examined with the speculum by Dr. ———, and caustic applied the same day to the os uteri: speculum and caustic have been in almost constant use during the last ten months; leeches applied ten times; chloroform and Liq. Opii Sedat. in camphor mixture every night. *Present State.*

—Violent fits of hysteria; is no better; hymen gone; vagina widely dilated; uterus low down; near the ostium vaginæ, lips smooth and soft. Examined with speculum, and never saw a more healthy os uteri; no trace of ulceration, which had been declared to exist by the above eminent accoucheur.

No. 95, 1852. Married. Age, 64.—*Previous History.*—Had fever, in Sicily, while in the family way thirty years ago, and has never since been quite well; then bore two children, the youngest 25; also had some disease of the liver of long standing. Four years ago, the catamenia having long ceased, and there being no discharge or symptom of uterine disease, was recommended to consult Dr. ———, who examined with the speculum, and said there was a little polypus. Went to London every week for six months to have the speculum introduced, and to be cauterized. Profuse discharge from the vagina and pain followed this treatment. *Present State.*—General health greatly impaired, and constant pain across the hypogastrium; extremely nervous, which she never was before. No organic disease could be detected in the abdominal viscera, and those of the pelvis in a perfectly healthy condition.

No. 96, 1852. Married. Age, 42.—*Previous History.*—Two children; six years ago a tumour appeared in the right side of the hypogastrium, for the removal of which mesmerism was tried, then iodine; afterwards was examined with the speculum, and had caustic applied; then balls of iodine were introduced into the vagina, which produced irritation about the parts. *Present State.* — An ovarian tumour in the right side, with a distinct fluctuation; no ulceration of uterus.

No. 97, 1852. Married. Age, 42.—*Previous History.*—Married twenty-five years; one child; resided six years between the tropics, and suffered from the climate; four years ago began to feel pain in the hypogastrium, with enlargement; catamenia regular; three years ago leucorrhœa took place. One year after was examined with the speculum; ulceration of the uterus was declared to exist, and caustic applied, "which put her to dreadful pain;" symptoms ag-

gravated; she was in a distressing state of irritation after. Her husband interfered, and stopped the use of the speculum. Went to Aix-la-Chapelle, drank the water, and took the sulphur-baths, and derived great benefit from them, then went to Spa. *Present State.*—Irritation about the uterus continues; sense of suffocation, and other hysterical symptoms; no uterine disease.

No. 98, 1852. Married. Age, 33.—*Previous History.*—Married ten years to her first husband, and had seven children; uterine hæmorrhage six years since, after the birth of her last child; menorrhagia since, and pain of the back, hips, and all over, and impaired health; consulted a practitioner, who examined with the speculum, and applied leeches to the os uteri; no improvement. Another practitioner consulted, who examined with the speculum, and told her to lie upon the couch four months, and applied caustic every week; a sponge then passed up to the orifice of the uterus; leucorrhœa after this diminished, but pain increased. An instrument then passed into the bladder, which produced great irritation. Again examined by another practitioner with the speculum, and leeches applied to os uteri every month. A second time married, twelve months ago; since, again speculumized and cauterized, and bougies employed. *Present State.*—No organic disease; no improvement from all this.

No. 99, 1852. Single. Age, 22.—*Previous History.*—Irregular menstruation and leucorrhœa for several years; irritation of bladder and pain in the back and groins; oxymuriate of mercury taken internally; astringent injections. Examined in London with the speculum, and ulceration of os uteri said to exist. *Present State.*—Os uteri small, smooth, not ulcerated; cervix slender, not tender; body not enlarged; no displacement; health ultimately restored.

No. 100, 1852. Married. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—Delivered of a dead child, 1840, of a second in 1842, preceded by headache and puerperal convulsions; of a third, still-born child 1843; of a fourth, at the sixth month, in 1844; of a fifth at the seventh month, in 1845; of a sixth in August, 1846, when there was adhesion of the placenta;

a mercurial course in 1847, followed by great disorder of bowels; another still-born child 8th Feb., 1850; an early miscarriage in 1851; internally leeches applied four times, eight each time, which produced a great loss of blood; then a course of treatment with speculum and caustic; this was succeeded by violent pain in right hip joint, and swelling of both legs; constant restlessness and nervous excitement. *Present State.*—Œdematous swellings of lower extremities; no disease of uterus; restored to health by rational treatment.

No. 101, 1852. Married. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Has suffered from indigestion and headache since her last confinement, eight years ago; catamenia profuse. Four years ago the uterus was examined with the speculum, great fulness was stated to exist, and leeches were applied to the os, "which did no positive good." A friend requested her to consult Dr. ———, who examined her with the speculum, and "talked about ulceration." Went to him twenty times, and each time the speculum and caustic were used; derived no benefit from this. Mr. ——— has examined the uterus without the speculum, and he says there is a contraction of the vagina, the result of the caustic.

No. 102, 1852. Single. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—In delicate health in early life; four years ago threatened with phthisis, afterwards had hysterical symptoms, with palpitation of the heart and fainting fits. 7th October consulted Dr. ———, who examined her with the speculum, and reported that her womb was in a wrong position, "it was completely turned, and wished her to come to London that some internal application might be made." *Present State.*—Hymen torn; os uteri smooth and healthy, lying backward; cervix and body of uterus sound.

No. 103, 1852. Married. Age, 50.—*Previous History.*—The death of her husband, two years since, caused great distress, and was followed by rheumatic gout and leucorrhœa, Tinct. Guiac. Ammon., ʒj. taken twice a day during two months, without benefit. In May, 1852, consulted Dr. ——, "who thought there might be a little rheumatism, but that there was certainly an ulcer in the neck of the womb, about

the size of a shilling, with hardness;" caustic was applied; the same practice was pursued for at least thirty times. "During the period of these operations there were occasional floodings, at one time lasting for three weeks, and to an alarming extent." *Present State.*—Violent nervous fits resembling hysteria; lips of os uteri soft, smooth, and regular; no hardness felt; finger not covered with blood or pus; through speculum os uteri seen red, and slightly swollen; glands enlarged; viscid discharge escaping. No ulcer or cicatrix.

No. 104, 1852. Married; barren. Age, 50.—*Previous History.*—Exposed to great fatigue in 1851. Afterwards became extremely nervous and apprehensive that she had some internal abscess. There was pain in the back, for which aconite had been taken. Afterwards was examined at Leamington with the speculum, by a practitioner, "who turned it round roughly within her, which gave great pain, from which she has never since been free." *Present State.*—Hysterical, as she has been from early life, and imagines she is suffering from a great variety of disorders. Uterus extremely small, as in most sterile women; lips of os smooth; no displacement.

No. 105, 1852. Married. Age, 32.—*Previous History.*—Has had six children, the youngest not twelve months old. Has suffered from pain in the right side of the hypogastric region for several years, but much worse of late. Catamenia profuse. Four months ago, while suckling her child, was examined with the speculum, and told there was ulceration of the uterus, and was cauterized, and kept in the horizontal position. Became extremely hysterical. Leucorrhœa since the caustic was applied, and sense of bearing down. *Present State.*—Os uteri soft, smooth, slightly irregular, as in women who have had children; no displacement or disease detected; tongue furred; great derangement of the digestive organs and kidneys. Aug. 1853. Is in a nervous hysterical condition; no organic disease of the uterus; has been separated from her husband twelve months.

No. 106, 1852 Married; barren. Age 48.—*Previous*

History.—Catamenia scanty; constant pain in the back during the last thirty years; not hysterical; dragging pain; unable to stand; "feeling as if the ligaments had given way;" an abrasion of the os uteri said to have been discovered with the speculum some years since; kept her bed and couch entirely five months; when she got up her back was worse than before. Examined by Dr. ———, with speculum, but the treatment recommended not adopted. Pessaries at one time employed with apparent benefit. *Present State.*—Lips of os uteri smooth and soft; anterior part of cervix uteri felt hard and enlarged.

No. 107, 1852. Married. Age, 41.—*Previous History.*—Weak and hysterical in early life. Ever since the birth of youngest child, nine years since, has been nervous, and suffered severely from neuralgia of the gums and face. Catamenia regular; examined with the speculum; and caustic was applied nine times. After this there was leucorrhœa, but the nervous symptoms seemed better. Came to London to consult Dr. ———. "It was declared in five minutes that there was ulceration." The speculum and caustic treatment resumed, and went on during a long period. Ulceration then declared to be not larger than a grain of mustard seed. *Present State.*—Os and cervix uteri perfectly healthy; the fundus lying back on the rectum; no enlargement of the cervix or body.

No. 108, 1852. Married. Age, 22.—*Previous History.*—Has had repeated miscarriages. Stated to have been examined with speculum, in the country, not many days before she miscarried in July, when there was pain and hemorrhage. Has ever since been in pain, and believes she was lacerated. *Present State.*—Uterus perfectly healthy.

No. 109, 1852. Married. Age, 52.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia ceased twelve months ago. Since then has had pain in the uterus and around the lower part of the spine, extending down the thighs; headache; irregular discharges from the vagina. Examined with the speculum, and inflammation and ulceration said to exist. Caustic applied once a week for a month, and then every fourteen days for several.

Last applied three months ago. Now using a caustic injection. *Present State.*—No abdominal disease; vagina healthy; os uteri a little open; no hardness nor irregularity of the lips; body of uterus so high up that its condition could not be ascertained.

No. 110, 1852. Married. Age, 47.—*Previous History.*—In 1838 often cupped from sacrum, after returning from India in bad health. In 1845 examined with the speculum by Dr. ———, and was often cauterized. In 1846, a small polypus said to have been detached and removed; symptoms not relieved; re-examined with the speculum; ulceration reported to exist, and a long course of cauterization and leeching. Two years ago symptoms still continued; again examined with speculum, and os and cervix uteri reported to be contracted; dilatation with bougies. *Present State.*—General health completely ruined; suffers constant pain about the uterus; posterior lip hard and irregular; the cervix harder than natural; body enlarged. 1854. The uterus has undergone no change.

No. 111, 1852. Married; barren. Age, 27.—*Previous History.*—Married nine years; catamenia irregular six years; great pain occasionally in the region of the liver and uterus. At the age of fifteen had a fit, accompanied with unconsciousness; several similar attacks at long intervals. Six weeks before, examined with speculum. *Present State.*—Abdomen distended, as in cases of hysterical tympanitis; great tenderness in the region of the liver; face swollen and shining; os uteri remarkably flat, so as to feel almost without lips; a small short cervix; body unusually small, and the fundus turned backwards. Symptoms, those usually present in cases of hysteria and sterility.

No. 112, 1852. Single. Age, 22.—*Previous History.*—Went to a southern colony at the age of seven; climate disagreed; catamenia have never appeared; congestion of the brain and hysterical attacks during the voyage home. Has had six fits without loss of consciousness. Since her return to England, was under the care of a clairvoyant, then a homœopathist, afterwards of a hydropathist, and still later of a

mesmerist; from whose treatment reports that she derived the greatest benefit. Has been repeatedly cupped, and has had nine blisters. Subsequently speculumized and cauterized by Dr. ———. *Present State.*—Hymen gone; vagina and uterus in the most healthy state.

No. 113, 1852. Married; barren. Age, 27.—*Previous History.*—Married ten years. Last March seized with a violent flooding. Reports that she was examined with the speculum by a practitioner, who told her that she had bad ulceration of the womb, and that this had extended to a blood-vessel. Returned to London, and placed herself under the care of a practitioner, who proposed to make an examination of the uterus without the speculum, and was not permitted. *Present State.*—Does not suffer pain; there is no discharge from uterus, nor symptom of disease; has been seized with spitting of blood; condition of uterus not allowed to be ascertained.

No. 114, 1853. Married; barren. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Married eight years; has been out of health six months; catamenia regular, but profuse; leucorrhœa. After consulting several practitioners of reputation, and being informed that there was some serious disease of the uterus, was recommended to go to an institution, where she was examined by Dr. ——— with the speculum; violent pain and hemorrhage followed the introduction of the instrument, and has been extremely ill ever since. *Present State.*—Vagina, os and cervix uteri extensively disorganized, with ulcerated carcinoma.

No. 115, 1853. Single. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—"For some years she had been subject to an affection of the uterus, which had given her a great deal of trouble; by some it had been considered fibrous tumour of the uterus, but I believe the general opinion is that there is retroversion with a folding of the organ upon itself, obstructing the rectum, and producing pain and nervous symptoms." She had been treated by a hydropathist at Malvern; and she had lain twelve months with her face to the ground, by the advice of Dr. ———, of London. She had tried the effects of mes-

merism; and at last went to Edinburgh, where the os uteri was divided with the hysterotome, and the metallic instrument forced into the vagina—usually called the impaling uterine machine. During the last two years has undergone a long course of speculum and caustic treatment. *Present State.*—No organic disease of uterus, the fundus lies back upon the rectum.

No. 116, 1853. Single. Age, 27.—*Previous History.*—Has been very delicate and hysterical for some years; catamenia regular, but scanty. Consulted a homœopathist, and was for a time under his care. By the advice of a sister-in-law, consulted Dr. ———, in London, who examined her with an instrument, after giving her something which made her unconscious. She went twice a week for two months, had the speculum introduced, and was touched with something which left a burning pain. Was worse after this treatment than before it had commenced. *Present State.*—Hysteria, with uterine irritation. No organic disease.

No. 117, 1853. Married. Age, 28.—*Previous History.*—Profuse menstruation, in India, in 1849; pain in the sacrum, hypogastrium, and iliac regions; weight in the pelvis, and bearing down. Examined with speculum, and ulceration of os uteri said to exist. Nitrate of silver, and afterwards potassa fusa applied, "by which a deep eschar was formed." Symptoms not relieved. Returned to London; underwent another long course of speculum and caustic treatment. Then went to Kissengen. Three months after the uterine pain came back, and the treatment with the speculum and caustic resumed. *Present State.*—Os, cervix, and body of uterus in the most healthy state. Pregnancy subsequently took place twice, and both labours were safely completed without difficulty.

No. 118, 1853. Married. Age 34.—*Previous History.*—Had long suffered from what was considered spinal irritation and hysteria, for which setons had been inserted between the shoulders, and leeches and blisters had been applied; and iron, strychnine, and other remedies taken. An ordinary examination had been made, and the existence of a tumour of

large dimensions in the pelvis ascertained. Consulted a practitioner after this, who examined with the speculum, the introduction of which was attended with great difficulty and pain. *Present State.*—A large diseased mass in the pelvis on the right side.

No. 119, 1853. Married. Age, 26.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia regular, but scanty and painful. Has long suffered from hysteria and constant pain at the lower part of the abdomen, whenever an attempt has been made to walk, and in consequence has been much confined to the recumbent posture. Great want of energy. In 1850, underwent a long course of treatment with the speculum, caustic, and leeches. Uterus said to be ulcerated. Then went to Kissengen. *Present State.*—Ascertained, both without and with the speculum, that there was no organic disease in this case.

No. 120, 1853. Married. Age, 32.—*Previous History.*—In good health before her marriage. Suffered severely during a voyage to India. Recovered after landing, but there was constant pain about the bladder, and inability to walk. A long series of nervous symptoms followed, which were stated by a practitioner to depend upon ulceration of the uterus. Underwent a long course of treatment with the speculum and caustic, without the slightest benefit. Returned to England. *Present State.*—The vagina and uterus in a perfectly healthy state. Dissatisfaction expressed by the patient when informed that there was no ulceration of the uterus, and that the speculum and caustic would not be resumed in the treatment.

No. 121, 1853. Married. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—Hæmorrhage and profuse watery discharge from the vagina for several months, without much pain till recently. It had been ascertained, by an ordinary examination, that the os and cervix uteri were affected with fungoid cancer in an advanced stage. An examination with the speculum had been made without any bad consequences, and without any additional light being thrown on the nature of the disease.

No. 122, 1853. Married. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—Had menorrhagia, with great debility, after the birth of her

third child, in India, and was obliged for some months to remain constantly in the horizontal position ; health improved by a short voyage. In 1850, after the birth of her fourth child, having moved about sooner than she ought to have done, suffered from time to time bearing down pains. Had some discharge, and was reduced to a state of great weakness. An examination was made, at Calcutta, with the speculum : " the mouth of the womb was found very large and open, the upper and lower lips ulcerated, having slight fissures in them, and in the lower lip was an ulcer the size of a small wafer; it was not deep ; the inner lining membrane of the uterus was also granulated ;" a course of speculum and caustic treatment. Health improved by the voyage to England. In London, leeches applied to the os uteri with injurious effects. Iodine balls, and another course of speculum and caustic treatment proposed and rejected. *Present State.*—Os uteri near the orifice of the vagina; orifice open, so as to admit the finger ; glands enlarged; anterior lip smooth; posterior thickened, but smooth and soft; body of uterus slightly enlarged. Through the speculum, the lips of os uteri seen pale and flabby. Recovered by sea air and bathing.

No. 123, 1853. Married. Age, 28.—*Previous History.*—Had fits, with insensibility, eighteen months ago, attributed by a practitioner to some disease of uterus. Examined with speculum; ulceration said to exist, and caustic applied; a few days after, seized with violent pain in the left side of the hypogastrium. *Present State.*—Within the pelvis, on the left side, an enlargement felt, probably ovarian, not in an active state ; March, 1853, this tumour had greatly increased, was in a state of active inflammation, and death ultimately took place.

No. 124, 1853. Married; barren. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Married ten years ; had passed three between the tropics. Catamenia irregular; leucorrhœa ; has long been extremely nervous, and at times in a state approaching to delirium tremens. Was nine months under the care of a practitioner, who very frequently employed the speculum and caustic ; extensive ulceration being stated to exist. *Present*

State.—Lips of os uteri smooth, and soft; neither inflamed nor ulcerated.

No. 125, 1853. Married; barren. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Menstruation had always been profuse; and two years before had severe attacks of menorrhagia, which did not yield to ordinary treatment. Then consulted a practitioner, who examined with speculum, and said that she had ulceration of the uterus. The speculum and caustic were used a great many times with no good effect. Went to Scotland, where she was again examined with the speculum, and informed the womb was still ulcerated. Consulted a third practitioner, who examined with the speculum, and told her there was no ulceration. A bent metallic wire was then pushed up into the womb, and ever since she has had severe pain on the right side of the pelvis. *Present State.*—A fibrous tumour in the walls.

No. 126, 1853. Married. Age, 24.—*Previous History.*—One child, two years and a half old. Catamenia profuse, with much pain; leucorrhœa; inability to walk; suckled eight months; treated for prolapsus uteri. Then examined with the speculum, by the advice of several young married friends in her neighbourhood, who were all being treated by Dr. ———, for ulceration of the womb. *Present State.*—Slight prolapsus; os, cervix, and body of uterus healthy.

No. 127, 1853. Married. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Three children, all stillborn, at seven months. At one of the British Colonies, had long been under treatment with the speculum and caustic "for ulceration of the uterus;" kept in bed during this time. No advantage; returned to England, and consulted Dr. ———, "who called upon her every week, and employed the speculum and caustic at each visit during four months." Has suffered much from pains about the uterus since her last premature confinement. *Present State.*—No enlargement of the neck or body of the uterus, nor displacement; the anterior lip thicker than natural, and harder on the inner surface. Through the speculum, the anterior lip was seen swollen, but its surface smooth, no ulceration or

abrasion, nor cicatrix; posterior lip swollen, smooth, no trace of ulceration perceptible.

No. 128, 1853. Married. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Four children, the last stillborn, July, 1852. Since October, profuse menstruation, with leucorrhœa. Had been examined with speculum, and informed that she had enlargement and inflammation of the uterus, which might terminate in ulceration. *Present State.*—No enlargement or displacement; the fundus lying unusually forward; the posterior lip a little thicker than natural, and longer. Inflammation and ulceration of the uterus stated to be very common in the provincial town where this patient resides, and the speculum and caustic in common use.

No. 129, 1853. Single. Age 26.—*Previous History.*—Born in India, and educated in Paris. Had typhus fever four years ago, since then has suffered from congestion of the brain; general spasms, and sickness at stomach; one day reports that she had locked-jaw at Brighton. Consulted a homœopathist, who examined the uterus with a sound, which produced great pain; retention of urine afterwards took place; then came to London, and saw Dr. ———, who examined her with the speculum, and said there was ulceration of the womb, and that no practitioner in London knew anything about this disease except himself. During three weeks, the speculum, caustic, and leeches frequently employed; after which, "she became dreadfully ill." *Present State.*—Hysteria, without any inflammation or ulceration of the uterus.

No. 130, 1853. Married. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Married three years, one child; had leucorrhœa several years; catamenia regular, but profuse; twelve months ago, a coloured discharge came on, with difficulty in retaining the urine; sense of bearing down. In April, the discharge became thick and extensive, and pain experienced about the uterus; loss of strength, and inability to walk. Her medical attendant had made an ordinary examination, and ascertained that the os and cervix uteri were affected with cancerous ulceration. *Present State.*—Vagina, os, and cervix uteri in an advanced state of cancer. In compliance with the request of the

relatives of the patient, the speculum was cautiously used. No additional light thrown on the disease.

No. 131, 1853. Married. Age, 53.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia have long ceased; had long been in a nervous condition, and accustomed to the habitual use of morphia; pain from the sacrum down the thighs, and inability to walk or stand upright. "The local treatment seems to have been severe enough, the surgeon having applied caustic over the sacrum, and, as usual, the same to the interior." The os uteri was cauterized some months. "The patient is fat, fair, and well-looking." *Present State.*—There is now a high state of morbid sensibility of the lumbar and sacral nerves, and a general hysteric condition; suffers from feelings of internal heat about the uterus, hips, and thighs; pain at the bottom of the back; uneasiness about the right groin, and inability to walk; no disease of the uterus; the organ small, and high up. The speculum and caustic had been used sixteen times.

No. 132, 1853. Married; barren. Age, 26.—*Previous History.*—Hysteric in early life; in good general health until her marriage, six years ago; catamenia regular. Went to Paris, where she consulted a practitioner, who examined her with the speculum, and reported that there was engorgement and ulceration of the uterus; leeches were applied. Went to Italy, where her health improved. Returned to England, and consulted Dr. ———, who informed her, after an examination with the speculum, that the womb was ulcerated. During six months, the speculum and caustic were very frequently employed. *Present State.*—Now suffering from hysteria in a violent degree; no disease of uterus.

No. 133, 1853. Married. Age, 23.—*Previous History.*—First labour two years and a half ago; a month after, suffered from sense of bearing down, and was recommended to wear a bandage. Not being relieved, consulted Dr. ———, who made an examination with the speculum; said "she had an ulcerated womb;" and was cauterized once a week during several months. Again became pregnant. Six weeks after the birth of her second child was again examined with the speculum, frequently cauterized, and leeched during several

months. Then had a miscarriage. Afterwards, the treatment with the speculum and caustic was resumed. *Present State.* —Uterus healthy.

No. 134, 1853. Married. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia profuse; constant pain in the back, and sense of bearing down; after the monthly periods, a thin discharge tinged with blood. Cancerous ulceration ascertained to exist by her medical attendant. With the greatest difficulty she was prevented from undergoing treatment with the speculum and caustic, being urged by her friends to place herself under the care of Dr. ———. In November, the disease had made great progress, and the vagina was involved in it An examination was afterwards made with speculum, but no caustic applied. Death ensued not long after.

No. 135, 1853. Married. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—No child for eleven years. Catamenia profuse for a long period, with pain; two years ago the discharge became much greater. Then examined with the speculum, and informed that there was ulceration of the uterus; caustic was repeatedly applied, and the ulceration was said to "be completely cured." Catamenia less profuse, but immediately followed by leucorrhœa. *Present State.*—Os and cervix uteri feel healthy, neither hard nor irregular; the lips, seen through the speculum, were red, and apparently slightly swollen and abraded; did not bleed when pressed. Now suffers from pain in the hypogastric region.

No. 136, 1853. Married; barren. Age, 47.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia had always been painful; attacks of spasms about the abdomen; a tumour detected on the left side of the hypogastrium, by her ordinary attendant. "It having been reported that Dr. ——— had accomplished a miraculous cure upon some friend, was consulted." An examination with the speculum was made, and the enlargement declared to be a fibrous tumour of the uterus. *Present State.* On the left side of the abdomen, a tumour, in which an obscure fluctuation is felt; the vagina so completely blocked up with a hard mass pressing upon the posterior wall that it was impossible to reach the os uteri; after the removal of an

indurated mass of feculent matter from the rectum by mechanical means, a tumour, most probably ovarian, was felt occupying the front of the brim of the pelvis. This patient had long been under the care of a homœopathist.

No. 137, 1853. Married; barren. Age, 46.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia ceased two years; since, suffered severely from headache after being exposed to great mental distress; two or three years ago first felt an enlargement of the hypogastrium; pain after passing the urine, and frequent desire to do so; sickness; palpitation of the heart. This patient stated that she had been induced to procure a speculum, and that she had frequently used it herself. *Present State.*—Procidentia of the anterior wall of the vagina and bladder; no disease of uterus.

No. 138, 1853. Married. Age, 47.—*Previous History.*—A year before, repeated and profuse hæmorrhages from the uterus. An examination made with the speculum: the anterior lip of os uteri reported to be red and swollen in a high degree, but no hardness or ulceration; nitrate of silver through the speculum frequently rubbed over the anterior lip without any good effect; hæmorrhage returned; potassa fusa then applied, producing sloughing of the part; great constitutional disturbance took place; after its separation, nitrate of silver again applied. *Present State.*—Sallow complexion; hæmorrhage; little or no pain; distressing sickness; os and cervix uteri disorganized with cancer. Death took place soon after an examination had been made with a trivalve speculum, by a practitioner who had been consulted.

No. 139, 1853. Married. Age, 42.—*Previous History.*—General bad health since the birth of her youngest child, six years ago; irregular sanguineous discharges from the uterus. Twelve months under the care of a homœopathist. Then informed by a practitioner, that she had retroversion of the uterus; and she wore for a short time a metallic ring and prong, called an intra-uterine pessary, with the worse effects. Then examined with the speculum, and informed that there was no retroversion, but that the womb was ulcerated, and caustic was applied three times every week for three

months. *Present State.*—No disease or displacement of uterus whatever.

No. 140. 1853. Married. Age, 27.—*Previous History.*—After the birth of her first child in India, had an attack of fever and acute pain in the hypogastric region; leeches and mercury were employed. The health being severely injured, returned to England, where it was gradually restored. Went back to India, and after the birth of another child, had leucorrhœa, and "a constant draining." Was examined with the speculum, aud had caustic applied three times a week during several months. This was followed by violent nervous headaches, palpitation of the heart, sense of suffocation, and a state of distressing excitement. Returned to England. *Present State.*—There is no disease of the vagina or uterus whatever.

No. 141, 1853. Married; six children. Age, 33.—*Previous History.*—Three miscarriages. At ten years of age had something in her throat which prevented her from swallowing. At thirteen was extremely hysterical. This, after some years, suddenly disappeared as it came. Six weeks after the last miscarriage an examination took place with the speculum, and was informed that there was ulceration of the womb. Caustic applied four times, the last time three weeks ago. Leucorrhœa of long standing. Catamenia profuse. *Present State.*—Anterior lip of os uteri thick, but not hard or irregular; posterior lip thin; finger not covered with blood; orifice of uterus open; no redness or ulcer visible; a profuse cream-coloured discharge.

No. 142, 1853. Married; five children. Age, 39.—*Previous History.*—All the labours natural. During the last ten months pain about the uterus, left hip-joint, and groin. Consulted a practitioner, who informed her that there was inflammation of the womb. Leeches were applied externally, which bled profusely. Another practitioner consulted, who reported that there was slight fulness of the uterus, but he "could discover no disease." Dr. ——— was then consulted, examined with the speculum, and said there was an ulcer of the womb, and applied caustic. Great sickness of stomach

has since been experienced. *Present State.* Great constipation and disorder of the stomach and bowels. By the sense of touch no disease or displacement of uterus detected. Os soft and smooth; lips equal in length; neck not enlarged or indurated; the rectum distended with a mass of indurated fæces. The patient being dissatisfied with this examination, the speculum was employed; and the lips seen smooth and pale; but immediately within the orifice a slight redness on the left side. On wiping the part, the redness disappeared. On the removal of a mass of thick fluid tinged with blood, no abrasion, excoriation, or ulceration was perceptible. There were several Nabothean glands slightly enlarged. By the proper use of purgatives this patient was speedily restored to health.

No. 143, 1853. Married; two children. Age, 29.—*Previous History.*—The youngest child four years old. After a miscarriage, accompanied with much hæmorrhage, suffered from a sense of bearing down, menorrhagia, and leucorrhœa. Last autumn examined with the speculum, and informed that the womb was inflamed and ulcerated. Caustic applied thrice. Symptoms not relieved. *Present State.*—The os uteri in a healthy state, but the cervix elongated in an extraordinary manner.

No. 144, 1853. Married; one child, premature. Age, 36. —*Previous History.*—Married thirteen years. In February last delivered of a premature stillborn child, the first she had ever had. Three years ago consulted a practitioner, by whom she was told the uterus was retroverted, and a metallic instrument was introduced, which produced "horrible irritation." Then said to have congestion of the uterus; leeches frequently applied, which bled profusely. The speculum was then employed, and a "red spot was said to be seen in the cavity," and leeches again applied. Something wrong was then discovered about the husband's prepuce, and he was circumcised, which nearly cost him his life. *Present State.*—Great emaciation and debility; os and cervix uteri irregular and harder than natural, as after sloughing.

No. 145, 1853. Married; seven children. Age, 42.—

Previous History.—Uneasiness about the chest after suffering great fatigue; headache and giddiness; catamenia regular; slight leucorrhœa. Examined by a practitioner with the speculum, and ulceration of the womb said to exist. "Once a week the caustic was used for three months." Since then her digestion has improved, but she has not felt well, and has been taking citrate of iron with advantage. *Present State.*—Extremely nervous; uterus, in structure and situation, perfectly healthy.

No. 146, 1853. Married; nine children. Age, 58.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia ceased four years ago. Six years ago, seized with pain in the region of the heart, which was relieved by leeching. Three years since had pains in the lower part of the abdomen and thighs, irritation about the rectum, and leucorrhœa. No hemorrhoids. Then consulted a practitioner, who said "he could not work in the dark," used the speculum, and declared the womb to be ulcerated. Caustic used once a week from May till October. After this no discharge, and ulcer then reported to be cured. *Present State.*—Now complains of pain over the whole of the lower part of the abdomen. Bowels constipated. There is a portion of intestine protruding at the umbilicus, which has existed nine years, and for which has worn a belt. Uterus healthy.

No. 147, 1853. Married; nine children. Age, 45.—*Previous History.*—Six months ago seized with pain about the uterus, like labour, and great discharge at the monthly periods. An ordinary examination was made of the uterus by her surgeon, and the existence of cancerous disease ascertained. Dr. ——— saw the patient, and thought the disease was "polypoid." He applied through the speculum potassa fusa thrice, after which all the symptoms had been greatly aggravated, especially the pain and hæmorrhage. To stop the discharge, a sponge was kept in the vagina, and occasionally removed with a tape. *Present State.*—Ulcerated carcinoma of the vagina, os, and cervix uteri.

No. 148, 1853. Married; several children. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—The after-birth retained long at the last

labour, and the practitioner uncertain if it ever came away. Leucorrhœa for seven years. Examined with the speculum in Devonshire some time ago, and was six months under speculum and caustic treatment. Took quinine in large quantities, and used astringent injections. Health being improved, returned to London. Became pregnant, and in the seventh month an examination was made with the speculum, and astringent injections were employed; went to the full period, and was safely delivered. A miscarriage in April last. Before this took place, examined with the speculum by Dr. ———, and assured that pregnancy did not exist, but that the womb was ulcerated; and caustic was applied twice before the pain and hæmorrhage commenced. *Present State.*—Os uteri feels swollen, but not hard or irregular; open and bleeding when touched; enlarged glands; lips red; no ulceration; a profuse discharge.

No. 149, 1853. Married; barren. Age, 50. *Previous History.*—For upwards of twelve months a thin watery discharge from the vagina, occasionally tinged with blood, had been going on, accompanied with dull pain or uneasiness about the uterus, with loss of appetite, general debility, and lurid complexion. A soft vascular fungus, hanging through the os uteri, removed with the forceps. This was reproduced, and the discharge had become more profuse, and the constitution more impaired. In consultation, a large speculum with four blades and a handle employed, and the conclusion drawn that the Nabothean glands were enlarged. Large cancerous fungoid growths from the os and cervix uteri ultimately took place, which proved fatal.

No. 150, 1853. Married; one child. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Great pain low down the back and across the loins, since a miscarriage three years ago. Catamenia regular. A yellowish coloured discharge in the intervals, with a disagreeable odour. Had been under the care of Dr. ——— since April, who had examined with the speculum, told her that there was ulceration of the womb, and had frequently applied caustic. Discharge continued. *Present State.*—The mouth of the uterus felt soft and regular; with the speculum, seen

red and swollen, but not ulcerated. A great discharge proceeding from the interior of the uterus. Bichloride of mercury had been taken for a long period.

No. 151, 1853. Married; barren. Age 38.—*Previous History.*—Suffered from menorrhagia before her marriage, and it has continued more profusely since. An examination was made by her medical attendant two months ago, but no disease detected. The os uteri was smooth and soft, and not unusually open. The speculum was used, but nothing was seen, engorgement, abrasion, or ulceration. Large doses of gallic acid were given during ten weeks, but the discharge rather increased under this treatment. Cold bathing and cold injections were then employed, and turpentine given internally, but this did no real service. Œdema of ankles. *Present State.*—No enlargement of the body of the uterus detected. A little irregularity or roughness on the inside of the orifice. No hardness. Nitrate of lead subsequently tried.

No. 152, 1853. Married; nine children. Age, 49.—*Previous History.*—About two years ago, a coloured discharge, not very profuse, took place spontaneously from the vagina, without pain or warning of any kind, or accident; which has gone on to the present time without interruption. Six months ago began to have severe pain in the back and groins, extending down the thighs; a small coagulum of blood once expelled; discharge at times brown and watery, intermixed with blood; difficulty at times in passing the urine; strength failing; emaciation; not able to take any exertion. Has been under the care of Mr. ——— in the country, "and has had caustic applied through the speculum once every week during the last six months. This, she said, disagreed with her, and made work upon her constitution." The caustic invariably caused pain, and increased the discharge. *Present State.*—Extensive cancerous ulceration of the vagina, os, and cervix uteri. Uterus fixed in the pelvis. Mrs. —— was recommended not to submit to any further speculumizing and cauterizing. Her surgeon regarded this as a reflection upon his professional character, justified what he had done,

and threatened to take legal proceedings. He was informed that Westminster Hall was the fittest place in the world for trying the merits of speculum and caustic treatment, and that the actual cautery might be useful on the occasion.

No. 153, 1853. Married; barren. Age, 32.—*Previous History.*—Dysmenorrhœa. Examined with the speculum not long since, and informed that there was dreadful ulceration of the uterus, and that she must come to London for six or eight months, to be under treatment. *Present State.*—A tender irritable state of the uterus, but no disease detected.

No. 154, 1853. Married; two children. Age, 45.—*Previous History.*—Seven years ago had a bad miscarriage. There was great hæmorrhage, and applications to the womb became necessary. Several abortions since. Was examined by a practitioner in the country with the speculum, and went through a course of speculum and caustic treatment of three months; leeches also were applied. Mr. ———, who was subsequently consulted, said "the uterus was doubled down, or doubled up." Afterwards "he said it was backwards, and she lay three months upon her face. He said likewise there was ulceration." The treatment did no good essentially, though it was asserted that the doubling down and ulceration were both cured. Discharge and sensation of bearing down succeeded. *Present State.*—Is weak, and unable to stand long; pain in the back, and irritation about the uterus; great tenderness of os and cervix uteri; but no displacement or organic disease; critical age approaching.

No. 155, 1854. Married; several children. Age, 55.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia have ceased seven years. In October there was some white discharge, it went on till the 18th of January, and there had occasionally been some discharge of blood; no pain. 20th January. Os and cervix uteri hard and irregular, nodulated, projecting unusually into the vagina. Mr. ——— had previously examined, withont and with the speculum, and ascertained that cancer had commenced. *Present State.*—Hæmorrhage of about two ounces has occurred thrice; the disease has made considerable progress; the vagina being now filled up near to the orifice.

At a consultation "it was said to be a case of cauliflower excrescence, and not of cancer, and that such cases had been cured." 12th June. The disease has made great progress. There has been an attack of crural phlebitis on the left side; an abscess formed internally, and the matter escaped from the bowels. At a consultation another examination was made with the speculum; the results unknown. The patient died in August, 1854.

No. 156, 1854. Married; barren. Age, 44.—*Previous History.*—After much mental anxiety, consulted Dr. ———, who examined with the speculum, and stated that there was chronic inflammation and congestion of the womb. "She was ordered to remain in bed six months, but remained eight," and during that time the practitioner "came every second day, and applied caustic through the speculum. The speculum was invariably used, but not always solid caustic, but some nitrate of silver, either solid or in solution. Then took a great quantity of steel, in consequence of the head being so much affected." At the end of the eight months was so well that she could walk about, and went into the country. Got worse again after twelve months; four leeches applied to the neck of the womb; and leeches to the groins. *Present State.*—Leucorrhœa; but the uterus is extremely small, as in most sterile women, and perfectly healthy and moveable. A painful hæmorrhoidal tumour; tongue furred; bowels relaxed; sickness; no appetite; cannot sleep at night without morphia; and is frequently during the day compelled to have recourse to ammonia and stimulants. Mental confusion.

No. 157, 1854. Married; eleven children. Age, 48.—*Previous History.*—After a miscarriage, two years ago, "began to complain of a vast number of symptoms, which might be comprised under the term hypochondriasis or melancholy." There was some suspicion of uterine disease, and she consulted Dr. ——, who examined with the speculum, and declared that there was ulceration. A long course of speculum and caustic treatment followed. No good result from this. Consulted another practitioner, who said the uterus was in a

flabby state, but not ulcerated. Saw two other physicians, who said the symptoms arose from nervous debility. Went to Scotland, again examined with the speculum, and leeches applied. *Present State.*—Os uteri irregular; a hard projection on the left side; a red spot seen on the posterior part, which did not bleed when pressed; no ulceration; a profuse white discharge flowing from the orifice.

No. 158, 1854. Married; barren. Age, 24.—*Previous History.*—Married two years; leucorrhœa ever since; was examined by a practitioner several months since, with the speculum, and abrasion of the os uteri was stated to have been observed; Argent. Nitrat., gr. x., dissolved in an ounce of water, has been repeatedly applied to the part with a camel's-hair pencil through the speculum; this has been "invariably followed by great uneasiness, and though at first there was a diminution of the discharge, at present it is as great as ever." *Present State.*—The anterior lip of os uteri felt soft, swollen, and spongy, but it did not bleed when pressed hard. With the speculum, we saw a fluid like that which flows from the nostrils in catarrh, escaping profusely from the os uteri, the inner part of the lips of which looked red, but were neither abraded, excoriated, nor ulcerated.

No. 159, 1854. Single. Age, 48.—*Previous History.*—"All her life long has suffered much from pain in the back, and weakness in the lower extremities," and other hysterical symptoms; slight leucorrhœa; an examination was made by Dr. ——, with the speculum, and he stated that there was great congestion and ulceration; the speculum and caustic treatment was continued six months; for a time got better, but the symptoms returned again, with pain in the back and discomfort. *Present State.* — Catamenia irregular; there never existed a more healthy uterus.

No. 160, 1854. Married; six children. Age 25.—*Previous History.*—Health injured in early life, from over-exertion and confinement at a boarding-school. After her second confinement inflammation of the hands took place, which spread up the arm, and large wounds took place after the application of leeches; three years ago was examined with

the speculum ; engorgement and ulceration were declared to exist, and for six months once a week she was speculumized and cauterized, which produced great pain. After this treatment, became pregnant, and had a child at the sixth month. *Present State.*—Great derangement of the digestive organs ; violent attacks of sickness ; body of uterus somewhat enlarged ; no other disease detected.

No. 161, 1854. Married ; seven premature stillborn children. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia profuse through life, and coagula of blood often passed with pain ; has suffered from rheumatism and almost constant pain about the sacrum, excited, apparently, by cold baths after the second premature confinement ; has been under the care of Dr.—— for six years ; two years ago an examination was made with the speculum, and growths were said to have been detected about the orifice of the uterus, which were cauterized, but not often ; quinine, mercury, and iron have been taken, to stop the discharge, but without effect. *Present State.*—Os uteri open, so as to allow the finger to be introduced, and a hardness and roughness felt on the anterior part of the cervix like the root of a polypus ; the posterior lip much tumefied, but not hard ; body of uterus slightly enlarged. 15th June. Os uteri much more healthy.

No. 162, 1854. Married ; nine children. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Has never been well since her first confinement, when the placenta presented and there was a great hemorrhage. In October last was examined by a practitioner in the country, and informed that her uterus was diseased, and caustic was frequently applied ; it has been continued to this time. *Present State.*—Pain about the vagina and in passing urine ; pain in the back ; sense of bearing down ; leucorrhœa ; and irritation above the external parts ; no hardness or enlargement about the abdomen ; no displacement of the uterus ; a fissure in the posterior lip ; the edges of this smooth ; no hardness of the lips or cervix ; anterior lip everted, and its inner surface swollen.

No. 163, 1854. Married ; several stillborn children. Age, 38. —*Previous History.*—Eight years ago nervous system became

greatly deranged; a burning sensation about the hypogastrium and back; palpitation of the heart; catamenia regular; symptoms not then aggravated. Her medical attendant at first believed that they arose from the passage of gall-stones. At a fashionable watering-place was examined with the speculum, and informed that all her symptoms arose from congestion and inflammation of the womb, and during two months it was frequently cauterized. *Present State.* — Profuse leucorrhœa; tongue furred; indigestion; bowels confined; urine high-coloured and scanty; pain and burning sensation about the abdomen, especially in the evening; functions of liver and kidneys deranged; uterine organs healthy,

No. 164, 1854. Married; barren. Age, 39. — *Previous History.*—Was nervous and hysterical before her marriage, five years ago; since slight lateral curvature of the upper part of the spine has taken place; catamenia regular but scanty and painful; irritation about urethra and external parts; has been examined with the speculum and gone through a regular course of treatment with the speculum and caustic. *Present State.*—The right nympha hangs out far below the labia, and is hypertrophied; orifice of urethra red and swollen, growing from the entrance into the vagina; behind there is a red excrescence which is slightly ulcerated; uterus small, but healthy, and not displaced; cause of sterility not ascertained.

No. 165, 1854. Married; several children. Age 30.—*Previous History.*—In the third month of her first pregnancy suffered severely from sickness during a disastrous voyage from England to Portugal; afterwards was injured by the overturning of her carriage, and was ill long after, and had a severe labour and bad recovery; a year after had jaundice; spent the winter in London, where she consulted a practitioner who examined with the speculum, and said she had inflammation of the uterus and ulceration; a course of speculumizing, cauterizing, and leeching, of three months' duration, without any benefit, though assured that "the inflammation and ulceration are cured." *Present State.*—

Constitution greatly enfeebled; constant pain in the region between the short ribs of the left side and ilium; tongue furred; sallow complexion; appetite bad; there is no displacement or disease of any kind about the uterus; but the os and cervix are extremely tender on pressure; recovered at Brighton.

No. 166, 1854. Married; several children. Age, 40.—*Previous History.* — Had a severe attack of uterine hemorrhage about a year since; the catamenia for some years had been profuse: about a month ago consulted Dr. ——, who stated that there was a small polypus, and recommended that it should be destroyed with nitrate of silver; after seven applications the polypus was reduced to half the size it had been. *Present State.*—Os uteri open; lips soft, smooth, and swollen; the finger passed readily into the cervix, where the root of the polypus, half destroyed, was felt, and another small soft polypus naturally protruding through the orifice, and hanging by a firm peduncle from the cervix; through a glass speculum we saw the extremity of this second polypus, of a white colour, protruding between the lips; it was seized with a pair of forceps and extracted, but not without considerable twisting and extracting force being used, from the firmness of its root.

No. 167, 1854. Married; barren. Age, 43.—*Previous History.* — Catamenia long, scanty, and irregular; seven years ago became very hysterical, and this has been gradually becoming more distressing; sometimes afraid to be left alone; in 1851 was examined with the speculum, and informed that "two abscesses had formed in the neck of the womb;" a course of speculum and caustic treatment followed this announcement; the symptoms were not relieved; she has since tried homœopathy and the waters of Homburg; uncertain if any benefit has been derived from them; in France was examined by a physician, who told her that "the womb was turned to one side." *Present State.*—Hysteria, with danger of mania: no disease or displacement of the uterus whatever detected.

No. 168, 1854. Single. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—

Has been ill since 1850, with hysteria and leucorrhœa, and distressing sense of heat about the uterus; in 1851 was four months under the care of Dr. ——, by whom the speculum and caustic were used every four days, almost without intermission, and occasionally leeches and warm hip-baths; she was then represented as quite well; but soon after, all the symptoms returned, and have distressed her ever since. *Present State.*—Catamenia every three weeks; after that suffers from the sense of internal heat; is extremely hysterical; swelling, weight, and tension, of lower part of abdomen; no disease or displacement of the uterus; is represented as being haunted day and night with the idea of imaginary ulceration of the womb; is a miserable nervous creature, unfit for anything in this world or the next; cannot walk; has just returned from Paris, where she had gone to see if anything could be done for her womb.

No. 169, 1854. Single. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Has long been suffering from irregular hysteria; consulted, some months since, Dr. ——, who examined her with the speculum; consulted another practitioner, who considered that "she had cancer forming on the womb;" requested to examine the patient and state my opinion. *Present State.*—Uterus healthy; great hypertrophy and elongation of one of the nymphæ; on its removal, leucorrhœa, pain of the hypogastrium, and nervous symptoms disappeared.

No. 170, 1854. Married; six children. Age, 51.—*Previous History.* — Catamenia ceased two years ago; gouty affection of one of the knee-joints six years since; has suffered, for a considerable time, from excessive pain in the back, chiefly when in bed; sleeplessness; no leucorrhœa; uneasiness about the interior of the pelvis; has taken steel and taraxacum, and drank Kissengen water; consulted Dr. ——, in November, who examined with the speculum, and said that the womb was "excoriated," and applied caustic seven times; no benefit derived from the treatment; some discharge followed; the last application of caustic made ten days ago. *Present State.* — Lips of os uteri smooth, regular, and free from hardness; slightly swollen, red;

several small depressions seen, but the mucous membrane entire.

No. 171, 1854. Married; barren. Age, 58. — *Previous History.*—From early life dysmenorrhœa, and in later years menorrhagia; in 1848 a severe attack of irritative fever, "with inflammatory congestion of the uterus;" in 1849 uterus enlarged; attacks of congestion and hemorrhage, and in the intervals a constant exudation of a thick albuminous, pellucid, pale-yellow, adhesive matter, "presenting no organic characteristics under the microscope;" the cervix uteri larger and harder than natural, and about a month following the first attack there was similar ulceration surrounding the os, which yielded to the application of lunar caustic and leeches. In 1852 a material aggravation of all the symptoms. *Present State.*—There is a large, hard, fibrous tumour embedded in the walls of the uterus; os uteri situated so far back that it is difficult to see it through the speculum; but it can be felt a little open, thin, smooth, and soft.

No. 172, 1854. Single. Age, 19. *Previous History.*—Had been suffering for some time from hysteria and almost total inability to walk; recently went to Scotland, where she was rendered insensible by chloroform, and an unsuccessful attempt made to introduce a speculum or some metallic instrument into the vagina; suffered violently after this attempt. *Present State.* — Hymen lacerated; vagina contracted; os and cervix uteri in the most healthy condition, and not displaced; suffering severely from hysteria.

No. 173, 1854. Married; several children. Age, under 30. —*Previous History.*—Youngest child eighteen months old; five months before had consulted Dr. ——, who examined with the speculum, and said the uterus was inflamed and ulcerated; caustic repeatedly applied; went to the Continent, and on returning to London the speculum was again employed, and four leeches were employed to the os uteri; the catamenia had not appeared for some months, and pregnancy not suspected. *Present State.*—Profuse uterine hemorrhage and great faintness after the leeching. Something else than engorgement of the uterus being suspected by me, the vessel

containing the blood discharged from the uterus was examined, and a fœtus and placenta found.

No. 174, 1854. Single. Age, 38.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia excessive for years, with pain in the back and discharge between the periods; swelling of feet; cough and expectoration; hoarseness; abdomen swollen and hard on the right side; five years ago consulted a practitioner who informed her that there was a tumour in the uterus which "he could cure;" a long course of internal medicine, and she sat for ten minutes in a cold hip-bath for a long period; twelve months, consulted Dr. ——, who made an examination with the speculum, and introduced an instrument "like a pipe," but it gave such dreadful pain that it was immediately removed. *Present State.*—A large hard mass internally in the front of the pelvis; os uteri situated far back; the upper part of the tumour felt in the hypogastrium.

No. 175, 1854. Married; sterile. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—After her marriage, two years ago, "had extreme weakness of the womb and bearing down;" leucorrhœa; and at the monthly periods occasionally passed membranous substances with coagula, some of which were supposed to be diseased ova expelled in abortion; has suffered from piles, and had an operation performed; eighteen months since was examined with the speculum, declared to have ulceration; caustic was applied, but not many times; the leucorrhœa greater since. *Present State.*—No disease or displacement of uterus detected without and with speculum.

No. 176, 1854. Single. Age, 48.—*Previous History.*—Was injured by a fall from a horse, at the age of 21; catamenia aftewards ceased two years, and a long course of bad health succeeded; has taken, at different times, an immense quantity of mercury; catamenia have ceased five years, and since there has been no discharge of any kind from the vagina; has suffered much from pain in the back, and frequent desire to pass the urine. Consulted a practitioner in the country, two years since, who examined with a speculum, and caustic was applied three times every week during the winter, and she lay on the couch a great part of that time.

Present State.—Great derangement of the functions of the liver and digestive organs; slight jaundice; uterus small, lips smooth and regular; no hardness.

No. 177, 1854. Single. Age, 24.—*Previous History.*—Has been treated by Dr. ——, for ulceration of the neck of the womb (six months). The ulcer is represented to be healed, but the pain on one side of the navel still continues. The speculum and caustic were used at first once a week, and afterwards every fourteen days. They were used once a week during four months, and afterwards every fourteen days; had previously consulted a practitioner of some name, "who could not make out what was the nature of the case." *Present State.*—The uterine organs perfectly healthy; the imagination disordered.

No. 178, 1854. Married; several children. Age, 51.—*Previous History.*—The catamenia had ceased for a considerable period; then hæmorrhages of no great extent occurred, three or four times, with uneasy feelings about the uterus; three months under treatment with the speculum and caustic, on account of reputed ulceration of the posterior lip of os uteri; symptoms not removed. *Present State.*—Posterior lip elongated, remarkably smooth, soft; not ulcerated; os open; within the orifice a small polypus felt hanging by a firm peduncle from the inner surface of cervix. Polypus removed; parts slowly returned nearly to the natural condition without caustic.

No. 179, 1854. Married; several children. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Great flooding after the birth of first child. Four years ago, soon after the birth of her last child, examined with speculum, and treated by Dr. —— for "ulceration of the womb;" was very frequently speculumized and cauterized during three months, then said to be cured; symptoms returned, and underwent a second course of cauterizing nine months after; the last time, the application of the caustic produced great pain, and was succeeded by large boils; did not feel better after; consulted another practitioner, who examined with the speculum, and said there was great ulceration of the cervix, and that the treatment would

be long and severe and the issue doubtful; went to Scotland and saw a practitioner, who examined with the speculum, and said there was no induration of the cervix, but that the feeling of induration was produced by the womb having been "folded up," and a metal instrument was introduced; remained in the horizontal position, and was under treatment seven months. *Present State.*—Internal pain not relieved; catamenia regular; vagina, os uteri, rough and irregular, as it often is after long and severe cauterizing; no displacement nor induration.

No. 180, 1854. Married; barren. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—Consulted Dr. ——, for the purpose of knowing whether she could obtain a divorce from her husband. Examined with a speculum, and informed that it was exceedingly fortunate she had come under his observation, because she had "a great ulcer of the womb." The catamenia were regular, and there was little or no discharge at the time; underwent two long courses of speculum and caustic treatment. *Present State.*—Os and cervix uteri greatly disorganized; now suffering from carbuncles.

No. 181, 1854. Married; several children. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—The youngest child three years and a half old. A month exactly after her confinement mounted her horse and rode every day after as usual; nervous excitement and pain in the back followed. Her medical attendant had examined with the speculum, and said, "there is elongation of the cervix, and an epithelial appearance of the os and cervix uteri;" another had examined, and said there was cancer. *Present State.*—No tenderness, hardness, or swelling, of the anterior lip; posterior lip extremely irregular, and harder than natural, which led me to believe that some escharotic had been applied to the part; the patient had been under the care of a homœopathist.

No. 182, 1854. Married; barren. Age, 25.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia too copious since her marriage, and constant pain in the back when walking; felt weak. Highly nervous, but not hysterical; suffered from great tenderness of the vagina. Her sister has been long under the care of

Dr. ——, and has undergone a long course of speculum and caustic treatment, and has been highly pleased with the result. This patient, though urged to consult the same practitioner, and subject herself to the same treatment, refused to do so. *Present State.*—Hymen imperfectly destroyed; os and cervix uteri in a healthy state; no tendency to disease of any kind; a bougie speedily relieved the inconvenience.

No. 183, 1855. Married; five children. Age, 39.—*Previous History.*—Profuse menstruation during the last two years and a half, and one attack of dangerous uterine hemorrhage, apparently unconnected with pregnancy. Consulted a practitioner, who examined with the speculum, and recommended caustic to be applied every week. Several months under the care of another practitioner, who examined with the speculum, but did not apply caustic. *Present State.*—Os uteri widely dilated, allowing the finger to pass into the cavity; the anterior part of cervix much thickened; feet swollen; legs weak; cold perspirations.

No. 184, 1855. Single. Age, 20.—*Previous History.*—Always hysterical; was about to be married, contrary to her inclination, and was in the country during the summer in her usual health, when a practitioner, looking steadfastly at her, said, "I am sure there is something wrong with your womb." Being alarmed, she permitted him to examine her with the speculum, and received the information that the mouth of the womb was ulcerated; she was five weeks under his care, during which time she was cauterized almost daily. On leaving the watering-place where this occurred she was recommended to place herself immediately under the care of Dr. ——. She has been speculumnized again, but the ordinary medical attendant stepped in and stopped the cauterising. *Present State.*—Gushes of water are now said to take place from the uterus; os healthy and closed.

No. 185, 1855. Married; several children. Age, 33.—*Previous History.*—Has had protracted labours from a rigid condition of the os and cervix uteri. About six weeks ago, being four months pregnant, was examined with the speculum; ulceration of the os uteri said to have been discovered, and

cauterization employed repeatedly. *Present State.*—About five months pregnant; in good general health, but in great fear of the pains of labour; os and cervix uteri remarkably indurated; but not more than is often met with in cases where there is tendency to cancer.

No. 186, 1855. Married; sterile. Age, 39.—*Previous History.*—Enjoyed good health till the time of her marriage, twelve years ago. Ever since has had profuse discharge, and has never, in fact, been free; catamenia profuse; symptoms aggravated during the last five years; in spite of this, has been gradually becoming stouter; has been examined with the speculum, and cauterized without the slightest benefit. *Present State.*—Os uteri low down; the lips soft and regular; my finger never felt a more healthy os uteri; body of uterus lying backward; an irregular mass of no great size between the uterus and rectum.

No. 187, 1855. Married; two children. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Adhesion of the placenta in the first confinement, in the extraction of which great force was required; a low intermittent fever followed this. Came to London, and after being examined, remained five weeks under treatment; did not get well till she abandoned all medicine and medical treatment; again became pregnant, and was safely delivered; fever, weakness, inability to walk, and sense of bearing down followed; consulted another practitioner, who examined with the speculum, and said the uterus was out of its place and congested; a few days ago was again examined with the speculum, and ulceration then declared to exist. *Present State.*—Os uteri red, but no ulceration.

No. 188, 1855. Married; sterile. Age, 41.—*Previous History.*—In good health nine months ago. Went out in a boat and was seized with violent sea sickness, which was followed soon after by uterine hemorrhage; this has continued to the present time, and more especially at the monthly periods; no pain. An examination had been made by her medical attendant, and it had been ascertained that there was a tumour about the uterus. *Present State.*—The whole vagina, almost to its orifice, filled with a tumour which feels like the

head of a large cauliflower, the root of which grows from the whole circumference of os uteri; speculum employed, but no light derived from it.

No. 189, 1855. Married; sterile. Age, 31.—*Previous History.*—Married ten years; weak and languid; violent pain in the limbs and back; has undergone a lengthened course of treatment with the speculum, and is told that the womb is astonishingly improved; still the strength is not much improved; consulted another practitioner, who said there was no ulceration and no cicatrix, but that there was curvature of the womb; with congestion and considerable prolapse. *Present state.*—Uterus low down, almost at the outlet of the vagina; os and cervix perfectly healthy; body of uterus resting upon the rectum; no curvature or disease of any kind detected.

No. 190, 1855. Married; one child. Age, 34.—*Previous History.*—Five years ago began to complain of "dreadful pain about the lower part of the bowels and back;" catamenia regular. Came to London, and consulted Mr. ——, who examined her with the speculum, and applied six leeches to the os uteri; "he said it was something of an ulceration of the uterus;" caustic and scarification followed; all the symptoms aggravated. *Present State.*—Os and cervix uteri greatly swollen and very irregular, and bleeding when touched; whether or not artificially induced was uncertain.

No. 191, 1855. Married; several children. Age, 24.—*Previous History.*—Since the birth of her second child, eighteen months ago, has been weak, lost flesh, and been subject to fainting fits, and has been very nervous. Cough and dyspnœa; catamenia regular; leucorrhœa. Consulted Dr. ——, in London, who examined her with the speculum, and said "the womb was ulcerated"—"a very bad case—as bad as any he had ever seen, and that it would require a long time for its cure;" caustic was repeatedly applied, but the pain which followed was so great that the proposed course of treatment was summarily cut short. *Present State.*—Slight irregularity and hardness about the os and cervix, probably the result of the cauterization.

No. 192, 1855. Married; sterile. Age, 46.—*Previous History.*—Had, for upwards of twelve months, been suffering from pain about the uterus, and hemorrhage; two months ago consulted Dr. ——, who employed the speculum, which gave such pain that she would never allow it to be used a second time. Nature of disease not recognised; chloroform, chloric ether, bismuth, quinine, taraxacum, &c., prescribed. *Present State.*—Extensive disorganization of the vagina and uterus from ulcerated carcinoma.

No. 193, 1855. Married; several children. Age, 26.—*Previous History.*—Has spent seven years in India; had twins two years and a half ago. "In December, 1853, having just aborted, she remained weak for a considerable time after this, consequent on loss of blood then; she complained of great pain in the lower part of the spine, and in the region of the womb, which generally increased at the menstrual periods." After some time I induced her to submit to an examination, and found two large ulcers on the os uteri, one on the anterior, and the other on the posterior lip; the cervix uteri was shortened and thickened, and the os uteri was tilted backwards; her general health was very indifferent, and she had curvature of the spine; the treatment has consisted in the local application of Nit. Argent. in substance and solution, (20 gr. to ℥j), and, latterly, the Potassa cum Calce, as I found the other application not to have the desired effect; "the os uteri is in a more natural situation, but she still complains of pain in the lower part of the spine." *Present State.*—Induration of os uteri, posterior lip completely destroyed; functions of liver and digestive organs greatly deranged.

No. 194, 1855. Single. Age, 34.—*Previous History.*—"Please to bring your speculum vaginæ with you," said Mr. ——, on requesting a consultation: the patient had been seen repeatedly by Dr. ——, and the speculum used; informed that she had "been often suffering from irritation of the uterus, loss of power in the bladder, pain in the region of the left kidney." Three years ago the urine had been drawn off with the catheter; catamenia regular; profuse leucorrhœa; nine months ago again examined with the speculum, and no

disease discovered; cauterized, but not much. *Present State.*—Acne on the face; marked hysteria; uterus in the virgin state, and sound; hymen torn up.

No. 195, 1855. Married; barren. Age, 41.—*Previous History.*—Married twelve years; catamenia regular without much pain; eight years ago there was great discharge; then examined with the speculum, and cauterized; inflammation of the womb was said to exist; consulted a practitioner who told her, after examination with the speculum, that there was extensive ulceration; caustic was applied twice or thrice every week for a long time; got a little better after this treatment had been continued for a whole year; catamenia have recently ceased, and there has been great leucorrhœa; palpitation of the heart, and faintness and weakness. *Present State.*—Is extremely nervous; lips of os uteri gone; orifice hard and irregular, as after sloughing; cervix hard, body not enlarged.

No. 196, 1855. Married; one child. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—Hysterical in early life. After the birth of her child, eight years ago, began to suffer from pains in the loins and inability to walk; consulted Dr. ——, in London, and was many months under speculum and caustic treatment; leeches were occasionally applied; then consulted Dr. ——, and went through another course of similar treatment; then consulted a third physician, who approved of all that had been done, and recourse had once more to the speculum and caustic; no benefit whatever derived from this treatment, though thrice declared to be completely cured. *Present State.*—Is now confined almost constantly to bed; walking produces pain about the loins; an immense mass of fat in the walls of the abdomen; catamenia regular; leucorrhœa; uterus extremely small and remarkably healthy.

No. 197, 1855. Married; one child. Age, 28.—*Previous History.*—One stillborn child and five miscarriages, the last three years ago; ever since has had constant soreness in the lower part of the back, stretching down the limbs, increased by walking and exertion; then occasional bad nervous attacks, with loss of consciousness, during several years; feelings of

deep depression before these attacks; has never fallen down in these, and they were, probably, hysterical; has undergone a long course of speculum and caustic treatment without the slightest benefit; has had leucorrhœa and uneasiness within the pelvis ever since; some years under the care of a homœopathist. *Present State.*—No displacement of uterus; os irregular; an old fissure on left side; no hardness, no ulceration

No. 198, 1855. Married; several children. Age, 32.—*Previous History.*—Seven miscarriages; examined with the speculum three years ago, and treated for ulceration of the uterus in Ireland; the caustic applied every week, which gave great pain; since has had continual brown discharge, frequent irritation about the bladder; severe pain in the lower part of the back. *Present State.*—General health good; lips and neck of uterus healthy; orifice unusually open; has been recommended to try the waters of Kreuznach.

No. 199, 1855. Married; several children. Age, 52.—*Previous History.*—Resided long in Portugal. Ten years ago was fourteen months under the care of Dr. ——, in London, during the whole of which time lay in the horizontal position, had the speculum introduced twice a-week, and caustic or leeches applied to the os uteri; about three hundred leeches were used. "Has never had a day's health since this treatment;" five years ago went to Paris and consulted a practitioner, who made an examination of the uterus, and said, "Your health is very much injured; do everything to strengthen your constitution, and I beg of you to undergo no treatment similar to what has been pursued in England;" has since suffered from derangement of the liver; this day week consulted Dr. ——, in London, who examined with the speculum, and said, "he discovered with it a local inflammation," and prescribed a solution of acetate of lead, and begged her to repeat her visit in a week, when the speculum was again introduced and caustic applied. *Present State.*—Lips of uterus pale and healthy; no disease of any kind.

No. 200, 1855. Married; several children. Age, 27.—*Previous History.*—Ill three years; after a miscarriage with great flooding seized with pain in the left side of the hypo-

gastrium; after leeching, cupping, a course of mercury, and lying up six months, the chronic inflammation on the left side gradually subsided, but the pain continued, and the general health greatly impaired; then consulted a homœopathist, who said the womb was displaced; means employed for this purpose not known; soon after this, pregnancy took place, and the labour at the full period lasted forty-eight hours; took chloroform, which did not agree with her; since delivery has been subject to attacks of spasm "in the womb, like labour pains," and unable to walk; has undergone a long course of speculum and caustic treatment for ulceration at a fashionable watering-place on the east coast of England. *Present State.*—Uterus healthy.

No. 201, 1855. Married; sterile. Age, 38.—*Previous History.*—Returned to England after residing several years in India, where the health was greatly injured; went to Scotland, where she was some time under speculum and caustic treatment "for ulceration of the womb," from which no benefit was derived; then came to London, where she consulted Dr. ——, and went through another course of speculumizing, cauterizing, leeching, and scarifying; returned to India, where her health again suffered; the catamenia have been regular to the present time, but the abdomen has been gradually enlarging, and she has had many of the symptoms of pregnancy. *Present State.*—An enormous deposit of fat in the parietes of the abdomen; lips of os uteri gone; the organ small, as in sterility.

No. 202, Burton Ward, St. George's Hospital; 1854, 1855. Married. Age, 43.—After symptoms of gonorrhœa; speculum and caustic employed twice a-week during two months; discharge not diminished; no advantage, real or imaginary; uterus perfectly natural; no cicatrix.

No. 203, St. George's Hospital. Single. Age, 22.—After symptoms of hysteria and leucorrhœa; a course of speculum and caustic treatment; hysteria aggravated; discharge unchecked; uterus in a perfectly natural state; no ulcer and no cicatrix.

No 204, St. George's Hospital. Single. Age, 20.—

After hysteria and great flatulence, twice examined with the speculum; much hemorrhage and pain were the result; uterus perfectly healthy.

No. 205, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 33.—After hysteria and general ill health, a course of speculum and caustic treatment; great aggravation of all the symptoms; all the uterine organs healthy.

No. 206, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 49.—After slight leucorrhœa and pain, a course of speculum and scarification; acute inflammation followed; uterine organs perfectly healthy.

No. 207, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 28.—After slight leucorrhœa, course of speculum and caustic treatment for eight months; abortion in five months after last operation; uterus in the natural condition.

No. 208, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 33.—After leucorrhœa and sanguineous discharge, speculum used; no result; slight swelling of os and body of uterus.

No. 209. St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 40.—After leucorrhœa and general debility, speculum and caustic for six months; apparent benefit derived; slight tumefaction of os uteri; no ulceration.

No. 210, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 31.—After hysteria and pains about pelvis, speculum and caustic frequently employed for a long period; aggravation of hysterical symptoms; no amelioration whatever; slight hardness and irregularity of os uteri; not malignant.

No. 211, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 39.—Pains about pelvis; speculum and scarificator used; no advantage supposed to have been derived; slight induration of os and cervix uteri.

No. 212, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 36.—Pain in back, and sanguineous discharge; speculum and caustic for six months; apparent temporary advantage; hardness and swelling of back part of cervix.

No. 213, 1854, 1855. St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 33.—After uneasiness, hemorrhage, and other symptoms of organic disease of uterus, speculum and caustic repeatedly

used; great aggravation of all the symptoms; tumour within the uterus, probably fibrous.

No. 214, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 44.—Ovarian tumour; os uteri so high up as not to be reached; speculum employed; no effect.

No. 215, St. George's Hospital. Single. Age, 29.—Soft vascular growths of doubtful character protruding from os uteri; after detection of tumour, speculum and caustic every second morning for five months; disease advanced considerably during treatment, and ceased to enlarge when abandoned.

No. 216, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 55.—After detection of small protrusions, caustic applied through speculum with considerable apparent advantage.

No. 217, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 42.—Malignant tumour attached to os uteri; during last year, weekly application of caustic through the speculum to tumour; great injury produced.

No. 218, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 52.—Cancer of os and cervix uteri; examined with speculum soon after the commencement of the disease; much pain and hemorrhage produced.

No. 219, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 40.—Cancer of os and cervix uteri; examined with speculum in last stage of disease; great pain and hemorrhage.

No. 220, St. George's Hospital. Married. Age, 52.—Examined with speculum in the advanced stage of cancer of anterior wall of vagina; constant vomiting, and death followed.*

No. 221, Aug. 4, 1855. Married; two children. Age, 30. —*Previous History.*—Adhesion of placenta in the first labour. After this was in a low state, and had "Essex fever." Came to London, and was five weeks under the care

* The names of all the patients referred to in the preceding cases, with the specific dates, were contained in the paper, when presented through the President to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society on the 26th June, 1855.

of a physician, who examined the uterus once with the speculum, and said it had been injured by the adhesion. Various medicines were prescribed (quinine and steel), and an injection with alum. Did not gain ground till these remedies were "thrown away," and then got better by degrees. Numerous boils afterwards appeared. Weakness, inability to walk, and sense of bearing down. Examined by a physician in London, with the speculum, and congestion and chronic inflammation said to exist; leeches. Pregnancy again took place, and the health improved; labour natural, and suckled her child. Eight months after, an attack of low fever and inability to walk, and irritation of the bowels. Three days ago consulted a physician, who examined with the speculum, and said there was induration and ulceration of the womb, and that a long course of speculum and caustic treatment was absolutely necessary. An eminent hospital physician requested that this treatment should not be commenced until the state of the rectum had been very carefully examined. *Present State.*—Os uteri irregular, and harder than natural. The posterior lip projects unusually, but its surface is smooth. Both lips, seen through the speculum, red, like a cherry; but the surface was neither abraded nor ulcerated. The induration has nearly disappeared without caustic, and the general health improved.

No. 222, Aug. 22, 1855. Married; eight children. Age, 33. — *Previous History.* — Hysterical since an early period of life. Her last child born in May, 1854, and since has had pains about the pelvis; leucorrhœa and irregularity of the catamenia; rheumatism in the shoulder; and pains occasionally about the uterus, like those of labour. Consulted a physician in Jersey, who said, before an examination had been made, that there was "something wrong about the womb." The speculum then employed, and ulceration declared to exist. Caustic was applied, at first three times a-week, then twice, and then once, till November, during the months of July, August, September, and October. There was no cough during the whole of the time, which she spent entirely upon the couch. The hysterical symptoms were

considered by the physician a proof that there was some mischief about the uterus. In November it was found that there was "displacement" of the womb; the ulceration was said to be "cured." Three leeches were applied to the os uteri during the cauterizing, twice when the ulceration was going on, and once after. Cough commenced in May, 1855, and she is now threatened with tubercular phthisis. *Present State.*—Purulent expectoration, and a cavity at the top of the right lung. The introduction of the finger into the vagina gave exquisite pain; os uteri smooth, soft and natural; no ulceration or cicatrix seen through speculum.

No. 223, Aug. 27, 1855. Married. Age, 42.—*Previous History.*—Hæmorrhage from the uterus, and the body enlarged during several years, in all probability from the presence of a fibrous tumour in the walls. Various means had been employed with partial relief. A physician was then consulted, who examined with the speculum, and showed the husband through the bivalve that chronic inflammation of the neck of the womb existed, and asserted that the disease had previously been wholly misunderstood, and that he had just been called in time to prevent irreparable mischief taking place. The speculum and caustic were employed, sometimes twice a-week, for six or eight months. Not the slightest benefit resulted. Hæmorrhage and great debility followed, and a homœopathist has ever since had the care of the patient. *Present State.*—Great pain on exertion in the region of the uterus; the body large, and lying upon the rectum.

No. 224, Aug. 27, 1855. Married; four children. Age, 54. —*Previous History.*—Catamenia ceased five years ago; before this enjoyed good health, only suffered from an eruption on one of the legs, with varicose veins and leucorrhœa. Consulted a physician, who examined with the speculum, and said there was ulceration of the womb, and during three months was frequently cauterised, which gave great pain, and was followed by profuse discharge; health bad. *Present State.*—Uterus in a perfectly healthy condition; great disorder of digestive organs; hypochondriacal.

No. 225, Sept. 10, 1855. Married; several children. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Several miscarriages after the birth of her first child. Went to Edinburgh, where a long course of speculum and caustic treatment was adopted. Potassa fusa had been applied, and sloughing of the os uteri produced. The same treatment subsequently pursued in London. *Present State.*—Has been eighteen weeks in bed, on the supposition that pregnancy existed, and a miscarriage about to take place. Not pregnant. The os and cervix uteri hard, irregular and disorganized.

No. 226, Sept. 17, 1855. Married; eight children. Age, 28.—*Previous History.*—The youngest child five months old. General health good; a feeling of bearing down, and heat internally across the lower part of the abdomen and in the groin; catamenia have appeared twice since her confinement. About a year since suffered from the same symptoms when pregnant. Consulted a physician in London, who examined with the speculum, but did not apply caustic, and said she was "labouring under some extraordinary disease," for which he did not recommend any particular treatment. A year before this, she had consulted a physician in Dublin, who examined with the speculum, applied leeches, and scarified the os uteri, and then frequently touched the part with lunar caustic. Another physician in London had been consulted, who said there was displacement of the uterus, and recommended an abdominal bandage. *Present State.*—No displacement; orifice of uterus unusually open; lips somewhat irregular, but not hard.

No. 227, Sept. 18, 1855. Married twice; one child. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—In 1843, when her child was born, health excellent. Not long after her second marriage supposes that she was nearly poisoned with lead in the pipes, and was paralysed. Consulted a surgeon, at Liverpool, who examined with the speculum, and declared that the uterus was in a state of ulceration, and she was cauterised twice a-week for many months. Gradually recovered. "Was so afraid that she would have the ulcer of the womb again," that she recently came to London, and saw a physician, who

examined her with a speculum, and cauterised the uterus twenty-one days in succession. She confessed that the use of the speculum and caustic gave her no pain, and had set her mind at rest about the ulceration. Has since had rheumatic gout, and an enlargement of the liver and one of the ovaries, and has tried hydropathy. The kidneys have been even supposed to be diseased, and homœopathy has been tried; and also the waters of Ems. *Present State.* — Vagina healthy; os uteri small; a slight hardness on the margin of the posterior lip, and slight irregularity. There is an enlarged and painful state of the right side of the hypogastrium, but uncertain if there be any organic disease of the right ovarium.

No. 228, Sept. 20, 1855. Married; sterile. Age, 36.—*Previous History.*—Has enjoyed robust health, but being extremely anxious to have an heir, a great variety of means, local and constitutional, have been tried to remove the barrenness, but without success. In Edinburgh various experiments had been tried, bougies, sounds, hysterotomes, after which she had nearly died from hæmorrhage. Then a long course of speculum and caustic treatment in London, by which her bodily health has been deeply injured, and the mental faculties impaired. *Present State.*—Os uteri hard and irregular, as if about to become affected with cancer.

No. 229, Sept. 26, 1855. Married six years; sterile. Age, 28.—*Previous History.*—In good health before marriage; six months suffered from "pricking and shooting pains in the womb." Consulted a physician in London, who examined with the speculum, and told her she had ulceration of the womb, and went on treating her with the speculum and caustic twice a-week upwards of a year, whereby her state was not improved. *Present State.*—General health apparently good; os uteri soft, smooth, and healthy; altogether in a natural state.

No. 230, Oct. 2, 1855. Married; six children. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Nervous and hysterical; general weakness; numbness of the legs, and inability to walk; leucorrhœa. Reports that she was examined by a physician in

the country five years ago, who declared that there was ulceration of the uterus, and had a course of speculum and caustic treatment of three months' duration; the caustic was applied five times every fourteen days. The discharge from the vagina continued unchanged; blood escaped after each application. This treatment was commenced when she had not been confined with her last child more than two months. *Present State.*—Perinæum has been extensively torn; uterus in a most healthy condition.

No. 231, Oct. 5, 1855. Married; several children. Age, 40. —*Previous History.*—Her eldest daughter is nineteen years of age, her youngest three; she supposes that she miscarried at Christmas, 1854, but an ovum was not seen. In May believed herself to be pregnant, and seven months gone. Her ordinary medical attendant examined the abdomen, and satisfied himself that the enlargement did not depend upon the gravid uterus. A physician, residing in London, was then consulted, who examined with the speculum, and declared that ulceration of the os uteri existed, and applied caustic seven or eight times. After he had reported that she was well the patient went to the sea-side, and remained there until a few days ago, looking much better, exceedingly well, and satisfied in her own mind that she was seven months pregnant. The catamenia had appeared last in February; she said the movements of the fœtus were distinctly felt. The areola were dark and broad, and milk could be pressed out of the left nipple. The abdomen was considerably enlarged, and the whole of the lower part dull on percussion; the umbilicus prominent. No sound of fœtal heart or placental murmur distinctly heard by auscultation. Internally the lips of the os uteri high up felt soft and swollen, as in the latter months of pregnancy. Through the anterior wall of the vagina and uterus the head of the fœtus was felt. The ballotement was distinct. There could be no doubt about the existence of pregnancy, and in due time labour came on, and a healthy child was born, and the mother recovered in the most favourable manner. *Present State.*—Perfect health.

No. 232, Oct. 15, 1855. Married; one child. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Had enjoyed good general health till two years ago, when she miscarried. Ever since has been weak, and felt constant pain in the back. Consulted a physician in London, who examined with the speculum, said there was a fissure in the os uteri, and applied caustic repeatedly, from which no benefit was derived. Catamenia regular, but painful; leucorrhœa; tongue clean; digestive organs healthy. *Present State.*—In very good general health, except a slight fissure in the os uteri, the result of her labour; no disease discovered. Leucorrhœa continues.

No. 233, Oct. 27, 1855. Married; six children. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—The youngest child ten months old. Since its birth has been weak, and has suffered from pain in the left hip, and sense of bearing down and leucorrhœa, in consequence of which the child was weaned. Catamenia regular. A medical practitioner in the country examined her in July with speculum, and told her she had an ulcer of the womb, and cauterization was frequently employed without any benefit. A great discharge, streaked with blood, followed each application of the caustic, and she was so ill that she could not sit up. Consulted another surgeon seven weeks ago, who examined with the finger, and said one lip of the os uteri was more thickened than the other. He then used the speculum, but said he discovered no trace of ulceration. *Present State.*—Leucorrhœa still continues.—Has no more power in moving the limbs than before the caustic was employed. Is hysterical, and liable to faintness and palpitation of the heart. Os uteri near the ostium vaginæ; the anterior lip swollen, but not hard nor ulcerated, no trace of ulceration ever having existed in the os uteri; the posterior lip soft and natural. A copious white discharge seen flowing from os uteri.

No. 234, Oct. 30, 1855. Married; one child. Age, 50.—*Previous History.*—Was delivered with instruments (the perforator and crotchet) eighteen years ago, and had a slow recovery; the health ever since been "broken down." Several miscarriages since. In August last, during the absence

of her husband, was suddenly seized with "relaxation" and uneasiness about the uterus. A physician in London was consulted, who made an examination with the speculum, and said, "he discovered engorgement and decided ulceration of the uterus, to subdue which immediate and constant operations would be necessary." He visited the patient twice a day, and each time introduced the speculum, and either applied caustic, or, as he termed it, "dressed the wound." This continued for a month, when no apparent progress having been made, the general health being very deeply injured, the husband decided that it should be discontinued. Since the cauterization, which was continued ten weeks, there has been discharge from the vagina; there was none before. *Present State.*—Perinæum has been extensively torn. There is a firm cicatrix in the upper part of the vagina, the consequence of sloughing. Os uteri small and hard.

No. 235, Nov. 8, 1855. Married; two children. Age, 23. —*Previous History.*—Had a miscarriage five months ago; leucorrhœa ever since. Catamenia regular, but painful. Hysterical; palpitation of the heart; headache. Six weeks ago consulted a surgeon, who examined her with the speculum, and said there was "inflammation of the neck of the womb, and what they called ulceration." Caustic was applied once, but having been followed by great pain, and aggravation of the symptoms, it was not allowed to be repeated, and she has been worse ever since. *Present State.* —There is no swelling, hardness, or irregularity of the os and cervix uteri.

No. 236, Nov. 10, 1855. Married; several children. Age, 43.—*Previous History.*—On the 10th of November, 1855, with Mr. Cholmondeley, I saw a patient who had enjoyed good health till July, 1855, when the catamenia became irregular, and once hæmorrhage had taken place, but to no great extent, and without pain; a thin and bloody discharge continued during the months of August, September, and October. On examination I felt a fungous mass, with an irregular surface, soft in some parts and hard in others, growing from the anterior left of the os uteri, which did not

feel hard, swollen, or irregular. The growth was continuous with the anterior lip. The posterior lip was affected in a similar manner, but slighter degree. I had no doubt that this was fungous cancer, and Mr. Cholmondeley had formed this opinion before, and stated it to the husband. On the 7th of February, 1856, I again saw this patient with Mr. Cholmondeley, when the disease had made some progress, and no doubt could remain respecting its nature. A few days after this a physician in London, and a licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, was requested to see the case. After examining with the speculum, he declared that it was not too late to restore her to health, and said "he would make a woman of her;" but that it would be absolutely necessary for him to see her three times a week, and on the intermediate days his assistant would require to attend to apply the proper remedies; these being irons heated in a fire of coke to a white heat, and applied to the uterus through the speculum, and caustic when these were not employed. The speculum, actual cautery, and caustic treatment were assiduously continued, with great aggravation of all the symptoms, until the middle of March, 1857, when the patient died. On the 24th of March, 1857, Mr. Cholmondeley, having obtained permission, made a *post-mortem* examination, removed the uterus, and brought it to me on the 26th of March last. I have placed the cancerous uterus, with a perforation of the posterior wall of the vagina and rectum, on the table of the Society, along with the cancerous uterus of another female, where the speculum and caustic had been used daily for eighteen months, delusive hopes of recovery being all the time held out to the patient and her relatives.

No. 237, Nov. 22, 1855. Married; eight children. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—Went to India in early life, and suffered severely from the climate. Nine years ago had a premature confinement; the placenta being retained, great force was required for its extraction. Inflammation of the veins of the uterus and crural phlebitis followed on the left side and then on the right. In 1848, was under the

care of a practitioner in the north of India, who examined with the speculum, and said there was ulceration of the womb. Was twelve months under his care, during which caustic, leeches, and scarification, and injections, were employed. In 1849, the health not having improved, she removed to the Hills, where another practitioner ordered her to be cupped, and then gave tonics, without any advantage. In England she came under the care of a surgeon, who employed the speculum and caustic for several months, and on her return to India was seen by a medical officer of the Company, who gave the following report of her case, dated October 1st, 1853: "Mrs. — applied to me for medical advice, at Simla, May last, when I found her suffering from a long standing uterine affection, which had commenced and lasted ever since her last confinement, some five or six years previous, and for which she had been actively treated, both in this country and under the first medical men in Europe. On first seeing Mrs. — I found her suffering from a sensation of weight within the pelvis, and almost constant pain in the back, thighs, and groins, accompanied with occasional spasms in the uterus, which were always followed by a profuse bloody and sometimes colourless discharge. In addition to these symptoms, there was a sensation of sharp lancinating pain in the vagina, so severe as to prevent her sitting in one position with any comfort, which occasionally would increase in violence so as to be almost past endurance. On making an examination I not only found the neck and mouth of the womb much swollen and congested, but in a frightful state of ulceration, which fully accounted for the last-mentioned distressing symptoms. The body of the uterus was large and tense, rising above the pelvis, and about the size it would assume at the fourth month of pregnancy. I gave it as my opinion at the time that Mrs.—was four months advanced in pregnancy, or that there was a large tumour or some other foreign substance in the womb. The former suggestion she said was impossible, and the latter opinion I was induced to adopt for the following reasons: namely, that shortly after I had been attending

her, a considerable flow of fetid water came away in gushes, which indicated a state of dropsy of the womb, which afterwards, however, turned out to be incorrect. *Treatment.*—I persevered in the application of six leeches to the mouth of the womb every sixth day, for about six weeks; kept the bowels open by a mild laxative electuary, and gave two-grain doses of the iodide of iron every day. This system had the effect of reducing pain, giving strength, and after the fourth application of the leeches the congestion of the os and cervix uteri completely disappeared. However, I continued the leeching, owing to the pain in the loins and occasional irritable state of the uterus, until on one occasion, after the application, a considerable discharge of dark-coloured blood, followed by fetid water, took place, which decided me upon immediately evacuating the contents of the uterus whatever they might be. So I passed in a curved silver catheter, drew off the contents of the uterus, and after eighteen hours' suffering, a fœtus, enveloped in dense membranes, came away. This I look upon as a blighted conception at an early period of uterine congestion, and acting as a foreign body in an intensely irritable uterus. I feel convinced in my mind, should Mrs.—ever suffer again in a similar manner, that a judicious direct application of leeches, a course of alterative tonics and mild laxatives, will be sufficient, not only to give relief, but to effect a cure." She returned to England. *Present State.*—The health greatly injured by the climate of India and the treatment. Has now sensation of bearing down or uneasiness about the uterus. The whole nervous system in a state of great irritation. Veins of the abdomen and lower extremities swollen; catamenia regular. The os uteri is neither congested nor ulcerated. It is smooth, soft, and regular. No enlargement nor displacement, nor disease, could be detected, both without and with the speculum. The health has been gradually restored by sea air, bathing, light diet, and mild alteratives and aperients.

No. 238, Nov. 23, 1855. Single. Age, 34.—*Previous History.*—Has always suffered from headache, and irritation and uneasiness about the nose. Catamenia appeared at

seventeen, and have been regular ever since. Has never known what it is to feel well. At twenty-one, violent hysterical attacks; then suffered from an injury to the knee, by which she was confined to bed for months; it has remained stiff, and she has ever since had hysteria, and undergone every variety of medical treatment, directed by the most eminent physicians and surgeons in London. Recently has consulted a physician-accoucher, who examined the uterus with the speculum, said it was ulcerated, and has repeatedly applied caustic, and stated that a long course of such treatment will be required. *Present State.*—In a hysterical and half maniacal condition. No disease or displacement of the uterus could be discovered;—nothing to justify the use of the speculum and caustic.

No. 239, 1855. Married; six children. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Has resided eighteen years at Bombay, and has suffered much from dyspepsia and bearing down pains. Had fever after her fourth confinement. Came to England in 1848, consulted a physician, who recommended a course of mercury, which disagreed. A physician-accoucheur was then consulted, who examined her with the speculum and said the womb was ulcerated, and applied caustic. Then consulted Madame B—— and was mesmerised, and had enemas with nitre and alum administered, and these she thought "did her a great deal of good." Another physician-accoucheur was consulted, who gave her steel, and said, after examining her with the speculum, that the womb was not affected. Returned to Bombay, and had a child nine months after; had a low fever with discharge, after that the bearing down returned, and irritation about the bladder. Had another child, and then again returned to England, her health "having given way." During the last six months has been under the care of a homœopathist. Is still ill. *Present State.*—Great relaxation of the abdominal parietes and vagina. Uterus low, but healthy in structure.

No. 240, Jan. 11, 1856. Single. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Treated some time for displacement of the uterus, and "seems to have been treated by the speculum and

application of caustic for eight or nine months, which has caused her much pain, and from which she has gained little relief." The catamenia had been too frequent, and there had been leucorrhœa, and she had suffered severely from hysteria. Inflammation of the uterus and relaxation of the parts were said to exist. *Present State.*—No disease or displacement of the uterus. Hysterical.

No. 241, Jan. 14, 1856. Single. Age, 20.—*Previous History.*—Since the age of seventeen has suffered severe pain at each monthly period, the discharge has been scanty, and she has had strong hysterical fits, with sense of suffocation and sickness at stomach. Bowels constipated. The mouth is sometimes said to be turned to the left side. Consulted a practitioner, who said she had ulceration of the uterus, after examination with the speculum. *Present State.*—Hysteria without any uterine disease.

No. 242, Feb. 5, 1856. Married; three children. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Some years ago had a chronic eruption on the face, which disappeared after the internal use of arsenic. Two years since had gastric fever, with violent spasms, and lately has had a return of the same symptoms. Catamenia regular, with irritation of external parts; hæmorrhoids, leucorrhœa. Consulted a surgeon about twelve months ago, who examined her with the speculum, and told her she had ulceration of the mouth and neck of the womb. Caustic was applied, according to her request, daily for nearly a year. *Present State.*—Os uteri swollen, lips red and tender; no hardness; no part of the surface ulcerated. The eruption has reappeared on the face. General health better.

No. 243, Feb. 7, 1856. Married; three children. Age, 26.—*Previous History.*—Hysterical through life. Her last child born eighteen months ago, and having exerted herself soon after, was attacked with pain in the right side, and could not walk; she was obliged to give up nursing. Leucorrhœa followed, and injections were used; but she did not regain her health. November twelve months consulted a physician, who examined her with the speculum, and said there was slight ulceration of the womb, and he applied caustic; and

he recommended her ordinary medical attendant to repeat the application once a week, and that was done eight times, and injections were used, and she felt much better for a time. Still she never lost the pain in the side. Consulted the same physician again in 1855, who again examined with the speculum, and ordered leeches to be applied to the os uteri. The bleeding was profuse, and produced great weakness. *Present State.*—Uterus healthy.

No. 244, March 4, 1856. Married; sterile. Age, 39.—*Previous History.*—Enjoyed good health till July last, when she began to suffer from pain in the back, and leucorrhœa. Catamenia regular, but profuse. Consulted a practitioner in the country, who examined with the speculum, and told her there was ulceration of the uterus, and applied caustic five times, and afterwards leeches, which bled profusely. *Present State.*—General health good; complains of a sensation of burning in the lower part of the abdomen; uterus in the natural state, viz., high up; the os is small and smooth, and not unusually open.

No. 245, Mar. 8, 1856. Married; four children. Age, 41.—*Previous History.*—Born in the West Indies. Had a severe attack of measles seven years ago, which was followed by a great leucorrhœa, which continued for some months. Pain in the upper part of the right side of abdomen, and headache succeeded. Afterwards suffered from a sensation of sinking about the stomach, and constant desire to vomit; then pains in the inside of the right thigh. Was first under the care of a homœopathic practitioner for eight months, then consulted a physician-accoucheur four years ago, who examined with the speculum, and said it was necessary to apply caustic to the womb. This was frequently done during eight weeks; but residing at a distance from London, the treatment, being inconvenient to the patient, was discontinued, and she was very little better after it was done. Has since consulted a surgeon, who has frequently cauterized the uterus, and applied leeches to the orifice. *Present State.*—Complains of dragging pain on each side of the hypogastrium; tongue white; bowels confined; functions of digestive organs greatly dis-

ordered; os uteri low down; anterior lip hard, swollen, everted, but the surface smooth; the posterior lip in the same condition; the whole os uteri harder and more irregular than natural, but not ulcerated. Body of uterus large and hard.

No. 246, April, 1856. Single. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—Enjoyed good health in early life; since the age of thirty, pain in the back and bearing down. Came under the care of a surgeon three months ago, and was informed by a physician-accoucheur, by whom she had been treated during the five previous months, that there was an enlarged condition of the cervix, and considerable fulness of the uterus. At this time the os uteri could not be felt; there was a distinct enlargement of the uterus, and no "cervix discoverable," no ulceration apparently. She had little or no pain, but a feeling of weight, and occasionally a difficulty in emptying the bladder; her general health good; catamenia regular, no hæmorrhage; iodine had been given largely, and bichloride of mercury recommended; caustic had been applied many times, but the speculum had not been employed; the caustic had been conducted along the left forefinger. *Present State.*—The front of the pelvis filled with a large, hard mass, uterine or ovarian; the os uteri is felt high up behind, in a healthy condition.

No. 247, April 4, 1856. Married eight years; sterile. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Uterine hæmorrhage three years ago; is ill six days, and then gets well, and then the discharge begins again; dreadful pain in the small of the back and stomach; sickness in the morning; great palpitation about the heart; feels faint at times, and cares for nothing; pains down the thighs and in the knees, which she cannot describe; the speculum and caustic had been employed. *Present State.*—There is a hard mass lying in front of the uterus and connected with it, in all probability a fibrous tumour imbedded in the anterior wall, very hard and irregular; the os uteri open, the neck short.

No. 248, April 11, 1856. Married twenty-two years; sterile. Age, 44.—*Previous History.*—For the cure of her sterility

was recommended to go to Edinburgh and consult a physician-accoucheur; the uterine sound was first employed, "which had nearly destroyed her;" violent pain and inflammation followed its introduction; then wore the metallic ring and prong for some months to relieve retroversion, which was said to exist; the health greatly injured by this. At the end of a year underwent a long course of speculum and caustic, and ever since has been in a wretched condition; has been mesmerised. *Present State.*—Barren; extensive disorganization of the uterus and vagina; os uteri hard and irregular, and a firm cicatrix between the os and vagina on the left side; the rectum appears to be contracted near the part, and to be involved in the mischief.

No. 249, April 13, 1856. Married; one child. Age, 33. —*Previous History.*—Has had leucorrhœa six years, which commenced soon after the birth of her child; a great variety of remedies had been used without any benefit; it was said she had some fissure, and underwent a surgical operation without any good effect; a course of bichloride of mercury with tincture of bark had been tried, and also a long course of speculum and caustic treatment. *Present State.*—Os uteri soft and smooth, but unusually open; but no disease of any kind felt within; uterus not enlarged; the discharge is seen flowing from the os uteri.

No. 250, April, 1856. Married; four children. Age, 37. —*Previous History.*—Always weak and uncomfortable, with a grating sensation about the upper part of the chest; dyspnœa on exertion; pain in the back and front of the head; has had much illness. In 1847 had a miscarriage with great hæmorrhage, and a tedious recovery; catamenia regular since; has had leeches applied to the os uteri by the advice of a physician-accoucheur, and has undergone a long course of speculum and caustic treatment for ulceration of the womb. *Present State.*—A loud bellows sound over the region of the heart; pulse 80, intermitting; no swelling of feet; no disease of the uterus detected.

No. 251, April 23, 1856. Married; several children. Age, 50.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia ceased ten years

ago; general health has been good, but recently has suffered from discomfort about the uterus, and there has been a little discharge of blood from the vagina; leeches to the back and warm baths were recommended, after which the uneasiness and discharge were increased. Came to London and consulted a physician, on the 15th of February, who examined the womb with the speculum, and said at first there was inflammation only, "simple inflammation," and he said he would cure it "in no time." He gave her an acid mixture to take three times a day, and an alum and zinc injection, and tannin; she saw him once a week, and at every visit he examined her with the speculum. Sometime after, he said there was a small ulcer of the os uteri, and he touched it with caustic; this treatment was continued for upwards of a month, and being worse, the uterine sound was introduced, which produced such intense pain that she resolved not to permit him to make any further experiments upon her. *Present State.*—Uterus small as after the critical age; the lips flat and smooth; no inflammation, or ulceration, or organic disease of any kind detected.

No. 252, April 29, 1856. Married; seven children. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Leucorrhœa for many years. Consulted a physician five years ago, who examined the os uteri, and said it was ragged and irregular, as if affected with cauliflower excrescence; since has had two children, and the labours were natural. A few months ago began to complain of weariness and aching pain in the loins, and then had considerable uterine hæmorrhage. Consulted a physician in the country, who examined with the speculum, and recommended having the mouth of the womb rubbed frequently with nitrate of silver, and taking internally hydryodate of potash and citrate of iron; she was kept in the horizontal position six weeks. Benefit appeared for a time to be obtained from this treatment, but the symptoms have returned. *Present State.*—No organic disease of the uterus detected; but it is in a state of great morbid sensibility.

No. 253, May 1, 1856. Married; sterile. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Enjoyed good health till she married at

the age of nineteen, and went to Madras six months after, where she had a severe attack of jungle fever, this was the commencement of her subsequent illness. Returned to England, and was partially restored to health; went back to India, when hæmorrhage from the uterus, which had previously been experienced, returned and lasted some time. In 1846 the catamenia disappeared for some months, but she was not pregnant. At Madras consulted a practitioner, who said there was retroversion of the womb, and ordered her to return to England and place herself under the care of a practitioner at Edinburgh, but the state of health prevented this being done till 1848. Examined at Edinburgh with the speculum, and informed that there was inflammation and ulceration of the womb, and contraction; the hysterotome was used, which produced great pain, and was followed by profuse hæmorrhage for three days; then an instrument was introduced to support the womb, but it was removed in two days, as it caused great pain and bleeding; then caustic was often applied for ulceration, then iodine in the shape of balls every other day; then sent to Manchester to visit some friends, and directed only to use cold water internally. When she returned to Edinburgh it was found that the cold water had produced an inflamed spot on the back part of the womb, which being tender to the touch, two leeches were applied, which bled profusely, and caused great weakness; then she took sarsaparilla and acids, and some ointment was applied to the os uteri, which gave great relief. Left Edinburgh in January, 1849, in consequence of a proposal to remove something by an operation from the back part of the womb, to which she would not submit. Came to London, and saw a physician-accoucheur, who examined with the speculum, and said the womb was displaced, and that an instrument must be worn for some months; he introduced a metallic instrument, which caused constant bleeding, and at times great pain; was kept in the horizontal position till May, with the instrument within her; health greatly injured. Then went to Brighton by advice, and found it impossible to sit up with the instrument; it was never taken out all this time. In

fourteen days returned to London, and insisted on the instrument being removed; she wore it six months. Sailed for India in July, and gained strength during the voyage; but a thick, yellow discharge continued, and suffered as much as ever at the monthly periods. There had been hæmorrhage during the whole time the instrument had been worn, and never without pain. In November was seized with violent pain in the womb, which was considered by a practitioner at Madras to be neuralgia; he affirmed, however, that there was also ulceration, and the speculum and caustic were used every second day for several months, which caused great pain; was kept lying for three months; after this enjoyed tolerable health when left alone; but at times there was great pain of the parts and a profuse discharge, with irregular attacks of spasm of the womb about midway between each monthly period; these pains increased much in August, 1851, and the same medical practitioner at Madras applied a blister every week for eight weeks, or two small blisters, over the lower part of the abdomen; from these she derived no benefit, but the reverse; became very weak and had constant low fever. In March, 1852, had a severe fever; was first sent to sea and then to the Hills, where she remained two years, when the general health rapidly improved, but at times she suffered severely from spasm about the uterus; never suffered from these spasms till these instruments were used. In 1853 the spine became affected, and she could not walk, and could not use her arms, and was reduced to a state of great weakness; had a blister on the back, and was kept lying five months; then took large quantities of iron, and quite recovered. Returned to Madras in January, 1853, and enjoyed pretty good health. In 1854, the spasms of the womb occasionally occurred; during this time she was in no medical hands, and quite recovered her general health. Left Madras for England in February, 1855; in May consulted a physician-accoucheur, who said he found the uterus displaced; "put it to rights," and ordered her to take bichloride of mercury for some months; continued to take it till August, and then went to Ems. Recently, violent attacks and spasm of the womb took

place; her nervous system affected by the mercury, then she took camphor and hyoscyamus. *Present State.*—A cicatrix on the left side extending from the os uteri to the vagina. The whole of the back part of the vagina and upper part has been injured; the uterus is fixed to the rectum by adhesion; the lips of the os uteri are partially destroyed.

No. 254, May 6, 1856. Married; sterile. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—In good health till married five years ago, when she had a miscarriage. Since then has always been ill, and suffered from leucorrhœa; general strength greatly reduced. Six months after the abortion consulted a physician-accoucheur in London, who examined her with the speculum, and told her there was ulceration of the vagina; and he attended her five months every day, and "used caustic and all sorts of burning things." After this course of treatment was a great deal worse; she was salivated twice during that time. Then a course of sea-bathing. Then during eight months homœopathic treatment. Went to Bombay two years ago, and by the sea voyage restored to nearly perfect health. Rode on horseback in India, and nine months after felt unwell again, and suffered from "the same feelings of ulceration about the womb." Small growths then appeared around the orifice of the vagina. Returned to England two months ago.

The leucorrhœa, which had been profuse, has nearly ceased after using an astringent injection and taking citrate of iron. *Present State.*—Os uteri smooth, soft, and regular; cervix healthy; no displacement. At the orifice of the vagina there are growths very tender, but not ulcerated nor inflamed. No ulceration of the vagina; rugæ prominent.

No. 255, April 15, 1856. Saint George's Hospital. Married ten years; one child. Age, 35. *Previous History.*—Delivered at Lambeth, with instruments, of her only child nine years ago. Five years since seized with general weakness; pain in the back and "falling down of the womb." Four years ago admitted into a hospital, and had leeches applied to the womb three times a week during four months. Five months after this went to Southsea, and was under the care of a practitioner, who said "the womb was diseased,"

and he applied caustic three times a week for about three months; but she did not derive any benefit from the treatment. *Present State.*—Symptoms continue; catamenia regular; is nervous, and complains of pricking and darting pains in the lumbar region; sensation of bearing down; globus hystericus; and a yellow-coloured discharge from the vagina, not offensive; no difficulty in evacuating the contents of the bladder and rectum. Cervix uteri hard and enlarged all round, particularly in the anterior part. Anterior lip small, flat, hard, and irregular, and somewhat swollen. The posterior lip appears to be entirely gone; a cicatrix in the vagina. It was questionable whether it were malignant disease, or simply the result of mal-treatment: it proved to be the latter.

No. 256, May 9, 1856. Single. Age 48.—*Previous History.*—After much fatigue suffered from sense of bearing down, and sometimes difficulty in passing the urine. Catamenia irregular eighteen months. Last Christmas consulted a practitioner, who said "the womb was down and much ulcerated, especially the mouth." Some instrument was introduced daily for six weeks, which gave great pain. *Present State.*—Nothing in the appearance indicating the presence of any serious disease. The hymen so perfect that the finger could not be introduced into the vagina. No tumour of abdomen, and no signs of uterine disease.

No. 257, May 12, 1856. Married; six children, Age, 43. *Previous History.*—Debility and leucorrhœa since her last confinement; catamenia regular; sensation of bearing down. Consulted a practitioner in the country, who examined her with the speculum and applied caustic, which she thought greatly relieved her; but the pain in the side and down the leg from which she had suffered continues. It was proposed to apply leeches internally; but this was not done. *Present State.*—Leucorrhœa and irritation and hæmorrhoids; os uteri healthy, soft, and smooth; body not enlarged.

No. 258, May 24, 1856. Married. Age, 31.—*Previous History.*—A miscarriage twelve months since; leucorrhœa after, with pain of back and right hip, of which she had long complained. Consulted a practitioner, who stated that

there was a small tumour in the situation of the right ovarium, and prolapsus uteri. After three months the uterus was examined with the speculum, and it was found that the "os felt a little rough, as if there were some abrasion," and as if the surface were a little granular. This was touched with nitrate of silver twice, and got well. Five weeks ago the examination was repeated, and the womb found perfectly healthy. *Present State.*—Uterus healthy; but a little lower down than natural. A slight enlargement in the right side of the hypogastrium.

No. 259, May 18, 1856. Single. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—Two years ago in perfect health; catamenia profuse. Has had little or no leucorrhœa; debility and pain in the lower part of the abdomen and back for some time; pain in passing urine. Speculum and caustic treatment ten months. *Present State.*—No disease or displacement of the uterus. About the orifice of the vagina there are a number of painful excrescences growing.

No. 260, June 23, 1856. Married; six children. Age, 35. —*Previous History.*—Has spent several years in Ceylon in the jungle; had dysentery during pregnancy; the catamenia regular; headache; has been hysterical; leucorrhœa. The uterus was examined by a practitioner, who thought it would be necessary to apply caustic. Health greatly improved by the voyage to England. *Present State.*—No disease of the liver, spleen, ovaries, or uterus could be detected.

No. 261, July 3, 1856. Married; ten children. Age, 43. —*Previous History.*—The last two children still-born; was afterwards very weak, but without pain or any distinct illness, when she went to the sea-side in September last. Returned home greatly improved, but caught cold, and had cough and other symptoms of incipient disease of the lungs. Went back to the sea-side in February, 1856, with cough and expectoration of blood and dyspnœa. Consulted a practitioner there, who examined the uterus with the speculum, and said an "ulcer had formed at the mouth of the womb," and "he considered this ulcer had been of some standing." Caustic was repeatedly applied; returned home with the symptoms

of pulmonary disease much aggravated. *Present State.*—The posterior lip is gone, as in cases where it has been destroyed by sloughing. The anterior lip healthy: is now suffering from tubercular phthisis.

No. 262, July 25, 1856. Married; three children. Age, 30. —*Previous History.*—Has spent some years on the Continent, and states that on one occasion she had taken medicines expressly for the purpose of bringing on abortion. Has never been robust. Three years ago had a swelling of the abdomen, which made it impossible for her to walk, and was extremely nervous. Last February was in Paris and consulted a surgeon, who examined her with the speculum, and said there was ulceration of the uterus. The husband was requested to look at the ulcer through the instrument. A course of speculum and caustic for four months followed, from which no benefit was derived. Came to England a month ago, and consulted an eminent surgeon, who requested me to examine and report upon the case. *Present State.*—Pain in the back, not constant; pain round the lower part of the abdomen, which is much swollen; swelling of the feet and ankles. The catamenia have been more profuse since the cauterization, and there has been a copious yellow discharge. Sensation of bearing down. Wears a bandage, without which she believes she could not walk at all. Tongue clean; bowels regular. Appears in robust health, but the mind disordered. No disease of uterus.

No. 263, Aug. 1856. Single. Age, 21.—*Previous History.*—Has been ill twelve months; before in excellent health, but hysterical. Catamenia regular till a few months since. In January last went into a hospital for the diseases of women, and was under the care of a surgeon, who examined her with an instrument, the name of which she did not hear. What application was made to the womb she does not know; but she left in three weeks worse than when she entered. Afterwards went to another institution, where she was examined by the physician, and informed that she was suffering from nothing but weakness. *Present State.*—Is suffering from hysteria, without any organic disease of any organ.

No. 264, Aug. 26, 1856. Married; one child. Age, 49.—*Previous History.*—Enjoyed good health till the winter before last. Catamenia then became profuse, without pain. Consulted a practitioner at Belfast, who insisted upon examining with the speculum, and his report was "that there was some pustule which he cauterized," and recovery took place. Made a journey to the Continent, and was perfectly regular till Christmas, when the discharge again became excessive; came to Dublin, and consulted a physician, who examined her with the speculum and said "one of the lips of the womb was excoriated, and that in two months she would be quite well." Cauterization was then repeatedly employed, and on returning home to Belfast caustic was applied twelve times, and she was allowed to go about all the time while under this treatment. Left Ireland last month, and has suffered from long exposure to a heated and confined atmosphere in the country in a crowded assembly. Since then has suffered from great irritation about the bladder. *Present State.*—Perinæum extensively lacerated The os uteri is healthy, but it is low in the vagina and resting unusually upon the rectum; and between the upper part of the vagina and the neck of the uterus behind there is a band of adhesion, which must have been the result of some injury during labour twenty-seven years ago, or of the caustic at Belfast and Dublin.

No. 265, Aug. 27, 1856. Single. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—Has been an invalid for nine years. Was long under the care of a deceased physician, who stated "that she was suffering from the shortening of one of the lateral ligaments of the womb." She was kept long upon her back, and had belladonna applied internally twice a week. Consulted a practitioner in the country, who expressed a suspicion that there was something wrong about the womb. The catamenia were regular but painful, and there was leucorrhœa. Remained fifteen months under his care, and took various remedies, without any decided benefit; then consulted a physician in London, who examined her with the speculum, and said there was inflammation of the uterus; had three leeches applied to the groins every fourteen days

for six months; had injections and a warm bath every second morning. Did not derive any benefit from this treatment, and returned home, and then went to Paris. In 1850 consulted a physician-accoucheur in London, and was four months under his care. He examined her with the speculum, and said she had slight chronic inflammation and ulceration of the uterus, and caustic was frequently applied. It was applied more than thirty times, and it was always followed by great pain. No benefit whatever was derived from this treatment, except that the hysterical symptoms from which she had suffered were diminished. Returned home in November, 1850; consulted the same practitioner, who said there was still inflammation and ulceration. Four months in 1851 were spent in London under his care, and another course of speculum and caustic treatment of four months' duration. During the greater part of this time the caustic was applied twice a week. Was no better, though considered by the practitioner to be so. Afterwards was under the care of a homœopathic practitioner, and subsequently, during fifteen months, had another severe course of speculum and caustic treatment. *Present State.*—Has great tenderness along the upper part of the spine and is suffering from hysteria. There is no organic disease or displacement of the uterus. Catamenia regular; pain in the back, and inside of thighs; difficulty in evacuating the contents of the bladder and rectum.

No. 266, Aug. 28, 1856. Married eight years; sterile. Age, 30.—*Previous History.*—In good health till her marriage; catamenia irregular. Has for a time had great pain when the bowels are relieved. Twelve months ago consulted a practitioner in London, who examined her with the speculum, and said there was disease of the womb, and that if this had not been attended to she might have had ulceration. Caustic was applied, which she thought did her "a great deal of benefit." She remained two months under his care; "but never got well." The leucorrhœa has been very great ever since, and she suffered from pain of the back. *Present State.* Os uteri smooth and healthy; vagina in the natural state,

and no disease about the external parts. There is a painful hæmorrhoidal tumour, which appears to be the principal cause of the irritation.

No. 267, Aug. 1856. Married; sterile. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—General health good, and catamenia regular. For some time previous to the commencement of the present year had felt pains about the loins and bottom of the stomach when standing much and walking about; but did not apply to any medical practitioner until the beginning of this year, when she consulted one in the country, who informed her that she had ulceration of the womb, which caused great alarm. Leeches were repeatedly applied internally, and caustic was afterwards used and repeated at various intervals. Seventeen weeks kept on a sofa. Eleven weeks since last application of caustic. *Present State.*—Leucorrhœa profuse; "the uterus is enlarged and bulging on the left side; but not to a great extent, nor very hard. The os patulous and elongated to the right; jagged a little."

No. 268, Sept. 8, 1856. Married twice; three children. Age, 34.—*Previous History.*—Four years ago, at the time of her second marriage, quite well, and continued well till January last, when a great discharge from the vagina took place without pain. Applied to a London practitioner, who examined her with the speculum, and said the womb was ulcerated. Three months under his care, during which time she was frequently cauterised. Then consulted a hospital surgeon, who examined with the speculum, and applied caustic for ulceration of the womb. The speculum was used twice a week, and the caustic applied; and she was under his care two months. Then consulted another practitioner, who examined her both with and without the speculum, and then wrote to me his opinion that she was affected with carcinomatous ulceration of the uterus. *Present State.*—I examined without the speculum, and found the vagina and uterus extensively disorganised with cancerous ulceration.

No. 269, Sept. 3, 1856. Married; sterile. Age, 22.—*Previous History.*—Enjoyed good health before her marriage, two years ago. During eighteen months has had a yellow

discharge from the vagina. In apparent good health, and does not complain of any uneasiness. Consulted two medical practitioners in the country, who reported that she was suffering from inflammation of the uterus. Leeches were applied internally. This was six months ago. She was then examined with the speculum, and informed that there was ulceration of the uterus. Was kept six weeks in the recumbent position, and was cauterized twice a week for seven weeks. The leucorrhœa did not diminish after this in the slightest degree. Ten weeks ago she came to London and consulted a physician, who examined her with the speculum, and said there was "a granulated complaint of the womb." Caustic has been very frequently applied. No better after this treatment. *Present State.*—Vagina healthy; os uteri small, smooth, and regular; cervix in the most healthy condition, no trace of any ulceration ever having existed.

No. 270, Sept. 30, 1856. Single. Age, 22.—*Previous History.*—Was born in a hot climate, and has been extremely delicate through life. Nine years ago had inflammation of the lungs, and it was feared she would die of consumption at Madeira. In 1845, had swellings of the leg and neck, when she arrived in London; and she consulted a practitioner, by whom she was told, after being examined with the speculum, that her case was one of great importance. The speculum and caustic, she reports, have been used dozens of times. She is said to have inflammation and ulceration of the womb. *Present State.*—Hymen completely destroyed. Uterus perfectly healthy.

No. 271, Oct. 10, 1856. Married; sterile. Age, 27.—*Previous History.*—Married seven months, and never pregnant. Enjoyed good health till the age of twenty-one, except suffering at the monthly periods; the catamenia were sometimes irregular, and she was hysterical. The pain was chiefly in the left side of the abdomen and left leg, and the legs were swelled. The medical attendant of the family was consulted, and he said by her look he knew there was something wrong about the womb. A digital examination was first

made, and then the speculum was employed, and the opinion was given that ulceration of the neck of the womb existed. Thirteen times she was cauterized, and once had leeches applied internally. She was six months in the recumbent position. Her medical attendant then affirmed positively that the ulceration was "cured," and that she was perfectly well; but she felt worse than before the speculum and caustic treatment commenced, and there was great inflammation of the external parts. Has never been able since to walk any distance, or to exert herself as before twenty-one. Since her marriage the catamenia have been irregular, and she has had great pain in the back, and there has been a bloody and yellow discharge from the vagina. On the 7th of October, examined by a surgeon, who reported "that the speculum revealed nothing." *Present State.*—No displacement of the uterus. The anterior lip appears to be entirely gone. The posterior lip is perfectly smooth and healthy. Whether the anterior lip had been destroyed by potassa fusa, or by what means it had disappeared, uncertain.

No. 272, Oct. 9, 1856. Married; six children, and two miscarriages. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Healthy appearance. Reports, that ten years ago she got up too soon after her third confinement. Seven months after was examined with the speculum by a physician, and told she had an ulcer of the womb. She was suffering from general debility, and could not walk, and had leucorrhœa, to which she had long been subject, and depression of spirits. The catamenia were regular. "She was four months under the speculum and caustic treatment, and lay up the greater part of that time." Was cauterized twice a week. Became pregnant again about eighteen months after; went to the full period, and was safely delivered. About three months after her delivery, consulted another practitioner, and another course of speculum and caustic treatment of nearly the same duration was gone through under his direction. Under this appeared to get well. Afterwards miscarried with twins. The ulcers did not appear again. Was confined with another child, and not long after the ulcers again began to appear; and she con-

sulted the same practitioner, and underwent another long course of speculum and caustic treatment. Had another miscarriage, and another child, born December twelve-months. The labour natural, and afterwards went on well till the seventh week, and "then began to feel that there was another ulcer coming." She knew this "from the weight in the lower part of the abdomen and pricking pains." From December to June was under the care of the same practitioner, during the whole of which the treatment with the speculum and caustic went on once a week. It was well nearly once or twice, but as soon as an ulcer got well another appeared; and this happened four times. Is now under the care of a homœopathic physician. *Present State.*—In good general health, and no disease or trace of disease about the uterus. The mind disordered.

No. 273, Oct. 25, 1856. Married; sterile. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—Has been ill since last January. Not strong for years, the constitution having been injured by a residence in the West Indies. Had suffered from leucorrhœa. Has been for a time under the care of a physician in London, who has examined her with a speculum, and has been informed that she is labouring under ovarian and uterine congestion, and that the mouth of the womb is ulcerated. Caustic was applied once every week during February and April, when she had a miscarriage, having been pregnant during the whole time this treatment was pursued. Has been very ill ever since, and has now placed herself under the care of a homœopathic practitioner, by whom I was requested to determine both with and without the speculum the condition of the uterine organs. *Present State.*—Uterus low down; orifice open, so that the finger passes readily within the cervix; no hardness felt; the lips smooth and regular all round. No blood nor pus upon the finger after the examination. With the speculum the orifice was seen open, and a quantity of white fluid escaping from it. Lips perfectly healthy.

No. 274, Oct. 31, 1856. Married; four children. Age, 37. —*Previous History.*—The age of the youngest child two

years. Appears in perfect health, but states that she has been suffering from pain in the back more than twelve months, and that there has been a great discharge between the monthly periods, which have been regular. Has had a miscarriage since the birth of her youngest child. Was under the care of a medical practitioner eight months, and injections were employed. Last January examined with the speculum by a medical man, and informed that she had excoriation of the womb, "not what he would call ulcers." Was cauterized, but not more than four times. The speculum was used much oftener. The discharge was increased during the treatment, and it has since been of a greenish colour, and offensive; and there has been great pain of the back and sense of bearing down. Had spent three years in India. *Present State.*—The uterus is lower down than natural, and the fundus resting upon the rectum. The os uteri unusually open. The lips are soft and smooth, and in a healthy condition; but the glands of the cervix are enlarged, and on the right side one of them is hard.

No. 275, Nov. 4, 1856. Single. Age, 28.—*Previous History.* — Left her situation as governess, some time since, in consequence, according to her statement, of the catamenia being profuse, and "knobs in the groins." Was twelve months under the care of a physician, somewhere in London, who examined her frequently with an instrument, and said there was ulceration of the womb. Derived no benefit from the treatment. Doubtful if she was cauterized. *Present State.*—Hysterical. No disease of uterus detected.

No. 276, Nov. 15, 1856. Married; one child. Age, 28.—*Previous History.*—Ever since the birth of her child, two years ago, has suffered from indisposition, and has been very nervous and hysterical. No leucorrhœa. Not long ago saw a medical practitioner in London, who examined her with the speculum, and declared that she had extensive ulceration of the uterus, and that "he would cure the disease in two years," if she would submit to the necessary treatment; and that he would require to see the patient twice a week during the whole of that time. *Present State.*—The perinæum has been

partially destroyed. At the anterior part of the cicatrix there are two large painful excrescences growing. The whole vagina exquisitely tender to the touch. Complains of a constant sense of bearing down. Great difficulty in getting the bowels relieved. Pain in the hypogastric region. Uterus healthy.

No. 277, Dec. 3, 1856. Married; sterile. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Has spent a number of years in India, from which she has recently returned; and the following is the report of the case drawn up by her medical attendant, 2nd of September, 1856: "Mrs. — was under my care during part of the month of March and April, on account of a bronchitic attack, and at the same time complained of irregularity of the menstrual functions, said to have been present more or less ever since a miscarriage, two or three years previously. On careful examination I found some hardness of the cervix, with such contraction of the canal as not to admit of the introduction of the smallest sized bougie for more than half an inch of its extent. There was slight tenderness of the cervix on pressure; but no other departure from a normal state of the parts could be detected. During the short period when under my immediate observation, the treatment consisted of local depletion, by scarification of the os three or four times; the application of Tinct. witon., once or twice, with the use of tonics, cod-liver oil at intervals. By the end of the month the cervix was softer and less tender, but the sound could not be passed. Cold water injections locally, with cod-liver oil internally, were afterwards continued; and in a short time the menstrual functions became more regular, and the general health much improved." *Present State.*—The health much injured by the climate of India. Uterine organs in the state in which they are usually found in sterile women.

No. 278, Dec. 4, 1856. Married; seven children. Age, 32. *Previous History.*—Has suffered from dangerous hæmorrhage after three confinements. Since the last, born in February, has suffered from great pain of the back and constant discharge of yellow matter. Has several times been examined

with the speculum;—the first time, six weeks after her confinement, when it was stated that there was "decided ulceration," and caustic was applied three times, which was followed by intense pain; leeches were afterwards applied twice to the os uteri; twelve the first time, and six the second. After this a small tumour formed on the inside of one of the legs below the knee, which ulcerated, and afterwards healed up. *Present State.*—The os uteri is very irregular; behind it appears that a laceration had taken place, the edges of which are hard and projecting. Both lips are hard and irregular, but no tendency to cancerous disease. Body of uterus not enlarged.

No. 279, Dec. 5, 1856. Married. Age, 53.—*Previous History.*—Consulted a physician-accoucheur in London four or five years ago, and not obtaining benefit, she has, in the last three years, been seen by another, by whom she has been treated for ulceration of the womb. Four years ago, when under the care of the physician first referred to, she was said to have slight ulceration of the womb; and there were painful growths about the urethra, which were removed. *Present State.*—There is no organic disease of the urethra, vagina, or uterus to be detected, but there is an exquisite degree of tenderness about the orifice of the urethra and vagina.

No. 280, Dec. 11, 1856. Married; one child. Age, 34. —*Previous History.*—Reported by her ordinary medical attendant to have been under treatment by eight physicians and surgeons in London of eminence in this department of practice. Was confined about ten years ago, and was delivered with instruments, and the perinæum was lacerated. Suffered afterwards severely from inflammation of the parts. Three months afterwards consulted the physician by whom she had been delivered, and he introduced a pessary, which added "ten-fold to her sufferings." The pessary remained several months, but the inflammation increasing, she saw another practitioner, who removed the pessary, examined her with the speculum, and said there was ulceration of the womb. Deriving no benefit from a long course of speculum and caustic treatment, she consulted another practitioner,

who applied leeches to the mouth of the womb, which bled profusely, and left great irritation. Then he introduced a pessary of India-rubber, which produced great distress. Then suppositories were used, and injections. No medical treatment was adopted for a year, and then she was ordered to see another practitioner, who applied leeches after examining her with the speculum; afterwards caustic for a whole year. The caustic was applied twice a week for six months, during which time there was great discharge. This ended in 1851. Then consulted another physician, who examined her with the speculum, and recommended her to go to Kreuznach and drink the waters. Was there two months, but the waters disagreed with the stomach. The baths were taken. *Present State.*—The perinæum has been partially torn, and the part is now very tender to the touch, but not inflamed. Vagina sound. On the right side of the os uteri there is a considerable rent or fissure, which has probably been produced by the forceps in the labour. This part of the os exquisitely painful when pressed. Body of uterus not enlarged nor indurated.

No. 281, Dec. 24, 1856. Married; several children. Age, 41.—*Previous History.*—Health injured in early life by a severe attack of fever. Catamenia regular since eighteen. At twenty-four, was supposed to be labouring under consumption; afterwards had rheumatic fever, and then the cough disappeared. Then supposed to have disease of the heart; its walls said to be thin. Has at different times had severe hysterical attacks. Dangerous flooding after the birth of last child, in June. Has for some months been under the care of a London physician-accoucheur, by whom the speculum and caustic have been employed frequently. The last application of caustic to the os uteri for ulceration was made yesterday. *Present State.*—The patient is now anxious to know whether she is suffering from ovarian or uterine disease. On examination of the abdomen no enlargement nor hardness could be felt in any part. As the speculum and caustic had been employed the day before, she was

requested to return in a month to have the second part of her inquiry ascertained. The refusal to examine the uterus gave great offence. The mind disordered.

No. 282, Jan. 12, 1857. Married; several children. Age, Middle.—*Previous History.*—While in the gravid state, underwent a long course of speculum and caustic treatment for ulceration of the uterus. The existence of pregnancy not ascertained during this time, and not interrupted. The labour was natural, so she has recovered; but a suspicion still entertained that ulceration exists. *Present State.*—No disease of the uterus; sea-air recommended.

No. 283, Jan. 19, 1857. Married; two children. Age, 44.—*Previous History.*—Second labour protracted and catheter required. Thirteen months ago, soon after delivery, observed something peculiar about the abdomen. At the end of the month had pain in the right side of the abdomen; hæmorrhage from the uterus then took place. In the early part of autumn came to London and saw a surgeon, who thought there was a deep abscess forming above the right groin. Gradually a hard angular tumour became perceptible on the right side of the hypogastrium, and it was accompanied with much pain, and she lost appetite and flesh; came to London again a week ago, when it was ascertained that there was a large, hard, irregular tumour fixed in the abdomen, low down on the right side, fixed to the iliac fossa. The os and cervix uteri were likewise ascertained to be affected with cancerous ulceration. There had been great pain within the pelvis, and for some time profuse, bloody, offensive discharge from the vagina; the speculum had been employed, and ulceration seen. It was proposed by her medical attendant occasionally to cauterize the carcinomatous ulceration of the os uteri through the speculum, to alter the malignant action going on in the part now in an advanced stage. *Present State.*—A large cancerous tumour in the right side of the abdomen, and the os and cervix uteri and a small portion of the vagina disorganized by cancer. It was not considered

possible to alter by caustic the disease set up in this part, and it was recommended that the speculum and caustic should not be employed.

No. 284, Feb. 5, 1857. Married; sterile. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Had a severe attack of dysentery eight years ago. Since then has suffered from indigestion; catamenia have been regular. Last February suffered from headache and hæmorrhoids. Since then has been under a long course of speculum and caustic treatment for ulceration of the womb. In September was first examined with the instrument. About the close of the year the ulceration was reputed to be cured, and she took cod-liver oil, and feels somewhat better. Still she cannot walk; has pain in the right groin and back. *Present State.*—No hardness nor enlargement of the abdomen. The uterus is small, as in most barren women; the lips flat and smooth. No trace of any ulceration.

No. 285, March 25, 1857. Married; sterile. Age, 26.—*Previous History.*—In good health till her marriage, which took place eight months ago; and has suffered from no indisposition since, except great pain at the monthly periods, and some irritation about the bladder; no leucorrhœa. Consulted for this a practitioner four months ago, who examined her with the speculum, and told her there was ulceration of the womb. She has, ever since, been under speculum and caustic treatment. *Present State.*—The os uteri is small; the lips smooth; the orifice closed; there is no ulceration or disease of any kind.

No. 286, April 21, 1857. Married; eight children. Age, 45.—*Previous History.*—Some years since consulted a London practitioner, who examined her with the speculum, and declared that there was ulceration of the womb, and the speculum and caustic were employed twice a week for ten months, and nitrate of silver and iodine were occasionally employed. Afterwards consulted another physician, who declared there had never been any ulceration, but that there was ovarian disease suspected. *Present State.*—Right lobe of liver large and tender; uterus and ovaries apparently sound.

No. 287, April 4, 1857. Single. Age, 50.—*Previous History.*—Catamenia ceased twelve months ago; great irritation of the external parts followed, and leucorrhœa, and pricking pains internally. A surgeon examined her with the speculum, and told her she had ulceration of the womb. A course of speculum and caustic treatment of three months' duration; afterwards took iodide of potassium. *Present State.*—The symptoms continue. Doubtful if there be not some organic disease of the uterus commencing.

No 288, April 23, 1857. Married; four miscarriages and one premature child. Age, 34.—*Previous History.*—Married seven years before she became pregnant. Four miscarriages afterwards took place; ever since catamenia irregular, and leucorrhœa, and the health impaired. A practitioner made an examination with the speculum, and informed her that the uterus was retroverted. Then followed a twelvemonth's course of speculum and caustic treatment for ulceration. No benefit. *Present State.*—Os uteri irregular. No hardness as in incipient scirrhus.

No. 289, April 30, 1857. Married; one child; several miscarriages. Age, 27.—*Previous History.*—Repeated miscarriages since the birth of her child, in 1855, with profuse discharges of blood from the uterus, which left her in a state of great general weakness. In March, 1856, consulted a physician, who examined her with the speculum, and stated that ulceration of the uterus existed, and that to this the miscarriages were to be attributed. The speculum and caustic were used upwards of thirty times in less than six weeks. Soon after the ulceration was reported to be cured she became pregnant again, and miscarried about the fourth month, and great hæmorrhage followed, which threatened her life. She has gradually rallied. *Present State.*—Os uteri so open that the finger can readily be passed; lips soft and smooth, and no disease felt within the cervix; the lips, seen through the speculum, pale and healthy; a small clot of blood hanging through the os.

No. 290, April 30, 1857. Married; no children. Age, 28. —*Previous History.*—In good health before marriage, twelve

months ago. Catamenia regular. Consulted a physician on account of an eruption of inflamed pimples on the external parts and leucorrhœa, which had existed for years. Two months ago had a bilious attack, for which she saw the same practitioner, who said he thought she had inflammation of the womb. He examined with the speculum, and said his suspicions were confirmed. Immediately after he came once a week for five weeks, and applied caustic. The discharge was very great after each application of the caustic. He predicted she would be well in six weeks; but at this period she was much worse than when the treatment commenced. Catamenia profuse. Has suffered when the bowels are relaxed. *Present State.*—General health unsatisfactory. Glands of neck swollen. Vagina healthy; no displacement. Os uteri soft, but somewhat rough, and exquisitely tender.

No. 291, April 30, 1857. Married; five children. Age, 31.—*Previous History.*—Had retention of the placenta in her second confinement. Ever since has had uneasiness on the left side. Catamenia have been very painful, and the discharge irregular, and leucorrhœa ever since—a white viscid fluid in lumps. Two years ago consulted a practitioner, who first prescribed tonics, without examining the uterus. Afterwards examined with the speculum, and declared that there was ulceration; and applied caustic, which gave great pain. No benefit derived. This treatment was stopped, and another practitioner consulted, who declared that there was no ulceration, and never had been any. *Present State.*—Os uteri open, and very irregular; hardness felt within the cervix on the anterior part.

No. 292, May 6, 1857. Married; one child. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Was married a second time, between two and three years since, and enjoyed good health till about twelve months since, when she contracted gonorrhœa from her husband. After suffering from this for some time, she consulted a practitioner, who examined her with the speculum, and informed her that she was labouring under ulceration of the uterus, which excited the greatest alarm in her mind, from a dread that she had cancer, a relative having died of

this disease. During the months of August, September, and October, the speculum and caustic were employed twice a week, and after this went fifty miles into the country every week till Christmas, to have the caustic applied. She has been nervous and depressed in the highest degree. *Present State.*—Os uteri soft and smooth. Neck of uterus unusually hard and swollen.

No. 293, May 12, 1857. Married; five children. Age, 40.—*Previous History.*—Enjoyed good health till about a year ago, when she began to suffer from uneasiness in the lower part of the abdomen, and had constant sanguineous discharge. In November last had profuse discharges of fluid and coagulated blood from the vagina, with more pain and loss of general strength. About a month ago went into the country and consulted a surgeon, who, after examining with the speculum, informed her that the womb was ulcerated. Caustic was not applied, but injections of decoction of oak-bark and alum. *Present State.*—The os and cervix uteri and vagina extensively disorganized by carcinoma. The speculum not required to discover this.

No. 294. Saint George's Hospital, 1855. Married; one child. Age, 22.—*Previous History.*—Miscarried with twins a year and ten months ago; since has had a serious illness with jaundice five months; having for some time had leucorrhœa, with gnawing pain about the left anterior superior spine and ilium, and "falling down of the womb;" became an out-patient of an hospital for the diseases of women. Was examined with the speculum by the physician, and informed she had ulceration of the womb, complicated with tumour; the speculum was frequently introduced; leeches were applied to the os uteri through the speculum; when the operation had been performed three times, it was found that the instrument could no longer be introduced on account of the tenderness and swelling caused by the previous treatment; leeches were therefore applied without the tube, and the most alarming hæmorrhage followed. *Present State.*—Has had constant sanguineous discharge till very recently; has continued pain, like that of labour, in the back and left

side of the abdomen; globus hystericus, and nervous palpitation and hysteric fits; os uteri a little enlarged and tender; uterus perfectly moveable; cervix a little hardened on right side; spongy state of os uteri. Left the hospital greatly relieved.

No. 295. Saint George's Hospital, 1855. Married; two children. Age, 34.—*Previous History.*—Soon after her confinement had pains in the abdomen, dragging sensation about the pelvis, and leucorrhœa; palpitation and globus hystericus. These symptoms continued four years; then consulted a practitioner, who examined her with the speculum. and said he discovered an ulcer of the os uteri as large as half-a-crown. During four months caustic was applied through the speculum three times a fortnight, after which the ulcer was said to be healed; yet she did not find the symptoms at all alleviated. A second child born two years after, and this was followed by a small abscess in the vulva, which spontaneously burst; the former symptoms returned, and she underwent another three months' course of speculum and caustic; has been worse since. Was examined with the speculum immediately after admission, and the report was "that the ulcer was still found there." *Present State.*—Apparently in perfect health; band (the result of caustic) felt connecting the mucous membrane of the posterior wall of the vagina with the back part of the cervix uteri; slight fissure felt in posterior lip; os quite smooth; excessive depression.

No. 296. Saint George's Hospital, Oct. 24, 1855. Married; widow, one child, and one miscarriage. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Great hæmorrhage accompanied the miscarriage, which took place about three years ago. During the last three months there has been a constant yellow discharge, with pain in the loins, and darting and shooting pain down the right thigh; has been under treatment at a hospital, where the speculum and caustic were used every Thursday for seven weeks; and the last application was about five weeks ago, after which she left, not finding any relief whatever. *Present State.*—The os uteri is almost absent, the anterior lip cannot be felt; the posterior is small,

irregular, and not hard; the cervix is slightly harder than natural; the body is lying somewhat forward. Ocular inspection;—both lips are nearly absent; the posterior is red, but there is no ulceration. Discharged greatly relieved on November 27th, 1855.

No. 297. Saint George's Hospital, Oct. 24, 1855. Married; one child. Age, 24.—*Previous History.*—Enjoyed good health till twelve months ago, when she had a difficult labour, and the delivery was completed by craniotomy. Since her confinement has had a yellow discharge, with pain in the lower part of back and thighs, and bearing down. Went to a dispensary, where a surgeon on her first visit examined with the speculum, and said there was ulceration, and applied caustic, this was done almost every week for two months; after the last application the parts became so painful that she was unable to leave her bed for three weeks; then salivated; and had eight leeches to the hypogastrium; has had cough and expectoration. *Present State.*—Weak and nervous; want of breathing in the chest, particularly on the left side; the os uteri is swollen, hard, tender, and extremely irregular; there is no ulceration, and no escape of blood. November 15th, os uteri is not swollen, much more natural, and free from pain.

No. 298. Saint George's Hospital, Feb. 21, 1856. Married; several children. Age, 35.—*Previous History.*—Her illness, by report, commenced seven years ago, after her last confinement, in which recourse was had to instruments, and was followed by milk fever and "inflammation of the womb and bladder," and she was scarcely able to leave her bed for twelve months. She applied for admission into a hospital, where she remained eleven months with inflammation and enlargement of the womb, during which time she was salivated; was cauterized almost every week, and had a great number of leeches applied internally by means of a tube. Difficulty of passing the urine took place, and the catheter was required. Recovered slowly and partially till three months ago, when she was seized with "throbbing and stabbing pain" in the lower part of the abdomen and back,

and afterwards uterine hæmorrhage. *Present State.*—Weak and nervous; difficulty in passing urine; catamenia regular; a dark-coloured discharge; abdomen distended and painful on pressure; globus hystericus; no tumour felt; os irregular and nodulated; cervix rather hard; the posterior lip is very irregular and nodulated; uterus moveable and not enlarged; there is no ulceration.

No. 299. Saint George's Hospital. Married; five children. Age, 35. *Previous History.*—Ten days after the last labour, four years ago, was seized with excessive pain in the abdomen, with fever, and has never been well since. Became worse twelve months ago, and had bearing-down pains, with violent pains of the abdomen and loins, and leucorrhœa; she was then under the care of a practitioner, who used the speculum five or six times, and some red fluid; afterwards the womb was scarified, by which she lost much blood. Has been much worse since this treatment. *Present State.*—Pains continue, with leucorrhœa; os uteri high up, irregular, and flat; a small spongy mass springing from inside of anterior lip; hysterical attacks.

No. 300. Saint George's Hospital. Married; three children. Age, 37.—*Previous History.*—Her illness commenced six months ago, with a kind of sawing pain in both hips, which has continued to get worse ever since, and extends round the lower part of the back. Three months ago suddenly attacked with a severe flooding, which has occurred three times; catamenia have always been regular; has been under the care of a practitioner, who examined her with the speculum, and said she had ulceration of the womb; on several occasions he introduced the speculum, and applied "stick caustic," causing her great pain, and doing no good whatever. *Present State.*—Appears stout and muscular; complains of the same pains, and bearing down; has now a little sanguineous discharge; uterus moveable; on right side of os a hard, projecting mass; on left side, os and cervix are extensively disorganized and excavated; the vagina is not much involved in the disease.

THE preceding 300 cases of disease of the uterus, real or imaginary, in which the speculum and caustic had been employed by other practitioners, before they came under my notice, were originally published in a tabular form in the 38th and 40th volumes of the Medico-Chirurgical Transactions.

Of these 300 patients, 47 were unmarried, one had barely completed her eighteenth year; there were several under twenty, and the greater number under thirty years of age, and were suffering from hysteria, leucorrhœa, dysmenorrhœa, or some nervous affection of the uterus, without inflammation, ulceration, or any structural disease or displacement of the organ. In case 256 the patient had been informed that the womb was prolapsed and much ulcerated; and some instrument had been introduced daily for six weeks, by a physician extensively engaged in the treatment of uterine disease, and great expense incurred, with an aggravation of all the symptoms. In this case I found the hymen so perfect that it was impossible to reach the os uteri without employing an unjustifiable degree of violence. On the ground of morality, and on every other ground, the employment of the speculum in these 47 cases could admit of no defence.

Of these 300 patients 70 were barren, and the sterility was not removed, nor the hysteria, leucorrhœa, or disordered menstruation, under which the greater number were labouring, in a single instance relieved, or any benefit obtained. The injurious effects of a long course of speculum and caustic treatment upon the moral feelings and character of several of these individuals were not attempted to be concealed, the treatment being spoken of with horror and shame.

Of these 300 patients there were a considerable number suffering from cancerous disease of the uterus, in all of which the symptoms were increased by the introduction of the speculum, and the application of caustic or the actual cautery to the ulcerated vagina, and os and cervix uteri.

In case 236, though the carcinomatous ulceration was in an advanced stage, and the nature of the disease obvious to the most inexperienced, after an examination with the speculum a false prognosis was given, and iron heated to a white heat in fires of coke, was for months passed through the tube, and delusive hopes of recovery held out to the last, and the pecuniary concerns of the husband involved in irretrievable ruin by the charges, medical and surgical, incurred by such unscientific, unprofessional, and unprincipled proceedings.

Neither in the living nor in the dead body have I ever seen a case of simple ulceration from chronic inflammation of the os or cervix uteri, and to apply the term ulceration to states of the os uteri in which the mucous membrane, or, as it is termed by some, the basement membrane, is not destroyed by ulceration, is an abuse of language, calculated only to deceive and mislead the members of the medical profession, from whom the truth has been carefully concealed. The speculum emanated from the syphilitic wards of the hospitals of Paris, and it would have been better for the women of England had its use been confined to those institutions.

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A CLASSIFIED INDEX

TO

MR. CHURCHILL'S CATALOGUE.

ANATOMY.

PAGE

Anatomical Remembrancer .. 3
Beale on Liver 4
Hassall's Micros. Anatomy .. 14
Holden's Human Osteology .. 15
Jones' and Sieveking's Pathological Anatomy 17
Maclise's Surgical Anatomy .. 19
Paget's Catalogue 21
Sibson's Medical Anatomy .. 25
Toynbee's Catalogue 28
Wheeler's Handbook 30
Wilson's Anatomy 31

CHEMISTRY.

Abel & Bloxam's Handbook .. 4
Bowman's Practical Chemistry 7
Do. Medical do. .. 7
Fownes' Manual of Chemistry .. 12
Do. Actonian Prize 12
Do. Qualitative Analysis .. 12
Do. Chemical Tables 12
Fresenius' Chemical Analysis .. 12
Galloway's First Step 12
Do. Analysis 12
Do. Diagrams 12
Griffiths' Four Seasons 13
Horsley's Chem. Philosophy .. 16
Jones.—Mulder on Wine 17
Odling's Practical Chemistry .. 21
Plattner on Blowpipe 22
Speer's Pathol. Chemistry .. 25

CHOLERA.

Acland on Cholera at Oxford .. 3
Baly and Gull—Reports 4
Snow on Cholera 25

CLIMATE.

Francis on Change of Climate .. 12
Hall on Torquay 14
Haviland on Climate 15
Lee on Climate 18
Martin on the Undercliff 19
Martin (J. R.) on Tropical .. 20

DEFORMITIES, &c.

Bishop on Deformities 6
Do. Articulate Sounds .. 6
Brodhurst on Spine 7
Do. on Clubfoot 7
Hare on Spine 14
Inman on Spine 16
Tamplin on Spine 27

DENTISTRY.

PAGE

Blundell's Painless Extraction . 6
Clark's Odontalgist 8
Gray on the Teeth 13

DISEASES of the URINARY and GENERATIVE ORGANS, and SYPHILIS.

Acton on Reproductive Organs 3
Do. Urinary and Generative Organs 3
Coote on Syphilis 9
Coulson on Bladder 10
Do. on Lithotomy 10
Egan on Syphilis 11
Judd on Syphilis 17
Milton on Gonorrhœa 20
Parker on Syphilis 22
Todd on Urinary Organs 28
Wilson on Syphilis 31

DISEASES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Bennet on Uterus 5
Do. on Uterine Pathology .. 5
Bird on Children 6
Brown on Women 7
Do. on Scarlatina 7
Eyre's Practical Remarks .. 11
Hood on Crowing 16
Lee's Ovarian and Uterine Diseases 18
Lee on Diseases of Uterus .. 18
Roberton on Women 24
Rowe on Females 24
Smith on Leucorrhœa 25
Tilt on Diseases of Women .. 27
Do. on Change of Life 27
Underwood on Children 28
West on Women 29
Whitehead on Abortion 30

HYGIENE.

Beale's Laws of Health 5
Do. Health and Diseases .. 5
Blundell's Medicina Mechanica 6
Carter on Training 8
Cornaro on Long Life 9
Hartwig on Sea Bathing 14
Do. Physical Education 14
Hufeland's Art 16
Lee's Watering Places of England 18
Do. do. Germany, France, and Switzerland .. 18
Lee's Rhenish Watering Places 18
Robertson on Diet 23
Roth on Movements 24
Rumsey's State Medicine 24
Van Oven's Decline of Life .. 29
Wilson on Healthy Skin 31
Do. on Mineral Waters .. 31

MATERIA MEDICA and PHARMACY.

PAGE

Bateman's Magnacopia 4
Beasley's Formulary 5
Do. Receipt Book 5
Do. Book of Prescriptions 5
Lane's Materia Medica 17
Pereira's Selecta e Præscriptis 22
Pharmacopœia Londinensis .. 22
Prescriber's Pharmacopœia .. 22
Royle's Materia Medica 24
Spurgin's Materia Medica 26
Squire's Pharmacopœia 26
Steggall's Materia Medica .. 26
Do. First Lines for Chemists 26
Stowe's Toxicological Chart .. 26
Taylor on Poisons 27
Wittstein's Pharmacy 31

MEDICINE.

Adams on Rheumatic Gout .. 4
Addison on Cells 3
Alexander on Rheumatism .. 3
Arnott on a Local Anæsthenic 3
Barclay on Diagnosis 5
Barlow's Practice of Medicine 4
Billing's First Principles 5
Bird on Charcoal 6
Brinton on Ulcer 7
Budd on the Liver 7
Do. on Stomach 7
Chambers on Digestion 8
Davey's Ganglionic 10
Eyre on Stomach 11
Fuller on Rheumatism 12
Gairdner on Gout 12
Garrett on E. and N. E. Winds 13
Granville on Sudden Death .. 13
Gully's Simple Treatment .. 13
Habershon on Stomach 14
Hall on Apnœa 14
Hall's Observations 14
Harrison on Lead in Water .. 14
Headland on Medicines 15
Hooper's Medical Dictionary .. 16
Hooper's Physician's Vade-Mecum 13
Jones (H.) on the Stomach .. 16
Lugol on Scrofula 19
Peacock on Influenza 22
Pym on Yellow Fever 23
Robertson on Gout 23
Savory's Compendium 24
Semple on Cough 24
Shaw's Remembrancer 25
Steggall's Medical Manual .. 26
Do. Gregory's Conspectus 26
Do. Celsus 26
Thomas' Practice of Physic .. 27
Wegg's Observations 29
Wells on Gout 30
What to Observe 19
Whitehead on Transmission .. 30
Williams' Principles 30
Wright on Headaches 30

MISCELLANEOUS.

PAGE
Acton on Prostitution 3
Atkinson's Bibliography 4
Bascome on Epidemics 4
Bryce on Sebastopol 8
Cooley's Cyclopædia 9
Forbes' Nature and Art in Disease 12
Gully on Water Cure.. 13
Guy's Hospital Reports 13
Lane's Hydropathy 18
Marcet on Food 19
Massy on Recruits 20
Oxford Editions 21
Part's Case Book 22
Pettigrew on Superstitions .. 22

NERVOUS DISEASES AND INDIGESTION.

Anderson on Nervous Affections 3
Arnott on Indigestion 3
Carter on Hysteria 8
Child on Indigestion 8
Downing on Neuralgia 11
Hunt on Heartburn 16
Lobb on Nervous Affections .. 19
Radcliffe on Epilepsy 23
Reynolds on the Brain 23
Rowe on Nervous Diseases .. 24
Sieveking on Epilepsy 25
Todd on Nervous System.. .. 28
Turnbull on Stomach 28

OBSTETRICS.

Barnes on Placenta Prævia .. 4
Copeman's Records 9
Crosse's Midwifery 10
Lee's Clinical Midwifery 18
Pretty's Aids during Labour .. 23
Ramsbotham's Obstetrics.. .. 23
Do. Midwifery.. .. 23
Smellie's Obstetric Plates.. .. 25
Smith's Periodoscope.. 25
Swayne's Aphorisms 26

OPHTHALMOLOGY.

Cooper on Near Sight 9
Dalrymple on Eye 10
Dixon on the Eye 11
Holthouse on Strabismus 15
Do. on Impaired Vision 15
Jacob on Eye-ball 16
Jones' Ophthalmic Medicine .. 17
Do. Defects of Sight 17
Do. Eye and Ear 17
Nottingham on Conical Cornea 20
Walton on Ophthalmic 29

PHYSIOLOGY.

PAGE
Carpenter's Human 8
Do. Comparative 8
Do. Manual 8
Cottle's Human 10
Hilton on the Cranium 15
Richardson on Coagulation .. 23

PSYCHOLOGY.

Burgess on Madness 7
Burnett on Insanity 7
Conolly on Asylums 9
Davey on Nature of Insanity .. 10
Hood on Criminal Lunatics .. 16
Jacobi on Hospitals, by Tuke .. 28
Knaggs on Criminal Lunatics.. 17
Millingen on Treatment of Insane 20
Monro on Insanity 20
Do. Private Asylums 20
Noble on Psychology 20
Williams (J.) on Insanity .. 30
Williams (J. H) Unsoundness of Mind 30
Winslow's Lettsomian 31
Do. Law of Lunacy .. 31

PULMONARY and CHEST DISEASES, &c.

Addison on Healthy and Diseased Structure 3
Billing on Lungs and Heart .. 5
Blakiston on the Chest 6
Bright on the Chest 7
Cotton on Consumption 10
Do. on Stethoscope 10
Davies on Lungs and Heart .. 11
Fenwick on Consumption.. .. 11
Laennec on Auscultation 17
Madden on Consumption 19
Markham on Heart 20
Richardson on Consumption .. 23
Skoda on Auscultation 19
Thompson on Consumption .. 27
Wardrop on the Heart 29
Weber on Auscultation 29

RENAL DISEASES.

Addison on Supra-Renal Capsules 4
Bird's Urinary Deposits 6
Jones' Animal Chemistry .. 17

SCIENCE.

PAGE
Beale on Microscope 4
Beale's How to Work 4
Bird's Natural Philosophy .. 6
Burnett's Philosophy of Spirits 7
Carpenter on Microscope 8
Garner's Eutherapeia 13
Hardwich's Photography.. .. 14
Hinds' Harmonies 15
Holland on Appendages 15
Jago on Ocular Spectres 16
Jones on Vision 17
Mayne's Lexicon 19
Nourse's Students' Tables .. 21
Reymond's Animal Electricity 23
Schacht on Microscope 24
Taylor's Medical Jurisprudence 27
Vestiges of Creation 28
Sequel to ditto 28
Unger's Botanical Letters .. 28

SURGERY.

Arnott on Urethra 3
Ashton on Rectum 4
Bellingham on Aneurism.. .. 5
Bigg on Artificial Limbs 6
Bishop on Bones.. 6
Chapman on Ulcers 8
Do. Varicose Veins.. .. 8
Cooper (Sir A.) on Testis 9
Cooper's (B.) Surgery 9
Do. (S.) Surg. Dictionary 9
Curling on Rectum 10
Do. on Testis 10
Druitt's Surgery 11
Fell on Cancer 11
Fergusson's Surgery.. 11
Gay on Femoral Rupture.. .. 13
Do. on Ulcers.. 13
Harrison on Stricture 14
Higginbottom on Nitrate of Silver 15
Hodgson on Prostate.. 15
Hunt on Skin 16
Laurence on Cancer 18
Lawrence on Ruptures 18
Lee on Hæmorrhoids 18
Liston's Surgery.. 18
Maclise on Fractures.. 19
Nottingham on the Ear 20
Nunneley on Erysipelas 21
Pirrie on Surgery 22
Skey's Operative Surgery .. 25
Smith on Stricture 25
Steggall's Surgical Manual .. 26
Thompson on Stricture 27
Wade on Stricture 29
Watson on the Larynx 29
Wilson on the Skin 31
Do. Portraits of Skin Diseases 31
Yearsley on Deafness 31
Do. on Throat 31

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